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Only minority in Ireland back unity says Dr O'Brien

The Dublin Government, which backs British withdrawal from Ulster, has been angered and embarrassed by Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien, an opposition senator and former minister, who says that fewer than half the combined population on both sides of the Irish border favour a united Ireland.

Dublin anger over senator's claim

By Christopher Walker

A controversial public opinion survey, which Dr O'Brien said was the most reliable, has caused embarrassment and anger among leading members of the new Dublin Cabinet. The contention, based on a survey of opinion and attitude published on the island of Ireland, is that fewer than half the combined population on both sides of the border over the past 10 years, was made by Dr O'Brien, the former Minister of Posts and Telegraphs in the republic. Providing a foretaste of the political position he will adopt in his new role as an opposition senator, Dr O'Brien told a private conference in Oxford on Sunday that the accepted orthodoxy about Irishmen wanting unity was dangerously false. He later gave a similar speech to a group of Anglo-Irish politicians present here, saying that the subject was an important part of the current considerations of Anglo-Irish relations.

Dr O'Brien's intervention came three weeks before the general election in the Republic of Ireland, and his speech was seen as a direct attack on the official policy of the new Irish administration, he added. "To advocate unity as the solution to the problems of Northern Ireland is unrealistic, unfruitful, and even mischievous, through encouragement it gives to those who use force to achieve at undemocratic ends." To back his arguments, Dr O'Brien produced a number of figures, including a number from a new poll written by Father Michael Macreil, a Jesuit priest and sociology lecturer. The book, *Justice and tolerance in Ireland*, is based on interviews with three thousand Dubliners and provides the most comprehensive and scientific survey of attitudes in the republic since the Ulster violence began in 1969. Combining figures from different sources, Dr O'Brien maintained that fewer than two million people north and south of the Irish border favour unity. He said, "This was considerably less than half the population of the island." In contrast, Dr O'Brien cited from a BBC poll, which showed that 76 per cent of people in Northern Ireland opposed unification, while only 10 per cent supported it. "The importance of these figures is

Miners 90pc pay claim is shelved

By Paul Rounledge
Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday put aside their claim for 90 per cent pay increases and decided to reopen talks with the National Coal Board on a pit-based incentive bonus scheme that should avert a politically embarrassing clash with the Government over income policy. The cost will be paid by at least £20 a week financed by higher output.

The negotiating committee of the National Union of Mineworkers voted by eight to four not to proceed with a claim for £135 a week for support face workers, who at present earn £71. By the same margin the moderate-dominated bargaining team decided to talk with the board on the kind of productivity deal that was defeated narrowly at the union's policy-making conference in July.

Miners will breathe a sigh of relief that the most dangerous threat to the stability of the Government's pay policy is all but removed. Had the productivity initiative failed, the miners would have gone ahead with a claim for huge increases only eight months after accepting a phase two settlement.

NUM negotiators will now seek, and are almost certain to achieve, an improvement in the board's offer of £20 a week for the men who actually win the coal. The union wants another £5. The package will then go out to a ballot of the members with a recommendation from the executive to accept it next month.

The huge claim agreed at the conference is being shelved ostensibly for further study. But Mr Gormley, president of the NUM, made clear last night that it could be revived if other groups of workers break through the TUC's 12-month rule, which allows only one pay rise a year.

The secret pithead ballot is likely to be completed before the end of November, and the votes will be counted by the independent Electoral Reform Society. The outcome of bargaining with the board will, however, first be assessed by the miners' executive on

Continued on page 2, col 3

Mr Dayan arrives in Washington with his draft treaty

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Sept 19

As Mr Moshe Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister, arrived here today, Washington was waiting eagerly to see the draft Middle East peace treaty he was reported in Israel to be bringing with him.

American officials, however, are conspicuously less optimistic about the chances of peace than they were earlier this year. It is accepted that the Geneva conference cannot reconvene before December at the earliest, and that it will be difficult to get an agreement.

Mr Dayan will be followed here today by Mr Yehoshua Haskin, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, and other Arab ministers. The talks will be continued in New York, where all the ministers will attend the opening of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Everyone continues to concentrate on Geneva, largely because this is the one point on which all parties are agreed. The time for separate agreements between Israel and each

of its neighbours seems to have passed, although Israel would certainly like to sign another bilateral treaty with Egypt.

President Sadat has repudiated any such idea, and it is thought here that even in a state of desperation, with his regime at stake, the price would still be too high. The Americans hope the Israelis will accept that it is in their interest to keep Mr Sadat in office and that they will concede something to him to allow him to claim progress is being made.

It is no more than a hope. The Americans deluded themselves into believing that Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, was a moderate and had been adjusting themselves to the reality since he visited Washington in June.

It is thought important that the essential elements of a peace agreement should be settled before the Geneva conference reconvenes, for fear of disaster if it breaks down. The main issue remains the Palestinian "entity" and the West Bank.



President Carter welcomes Mr Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister, for talks in the White House.

Mr Dayan has been advocating an "internal solution", under which the occupied territories would be given a great deal of autonomy without reducing Israel's military control, its ability to settle Jews there, or the economic integration of the two areas. It is unlikely, however, that President Carter, this time, will not neglect to inform his visitor that America deeply disapproves of Jewish settlements on occupied land.

The question of Palestinian representation at Geneva will have to be settled, but the view here is that there are more important issues. If they could be settled, and the only outstanding problem was the composition of the Arab delegation or delegations at Geneva, the Israelis would show sufficient flexibility.

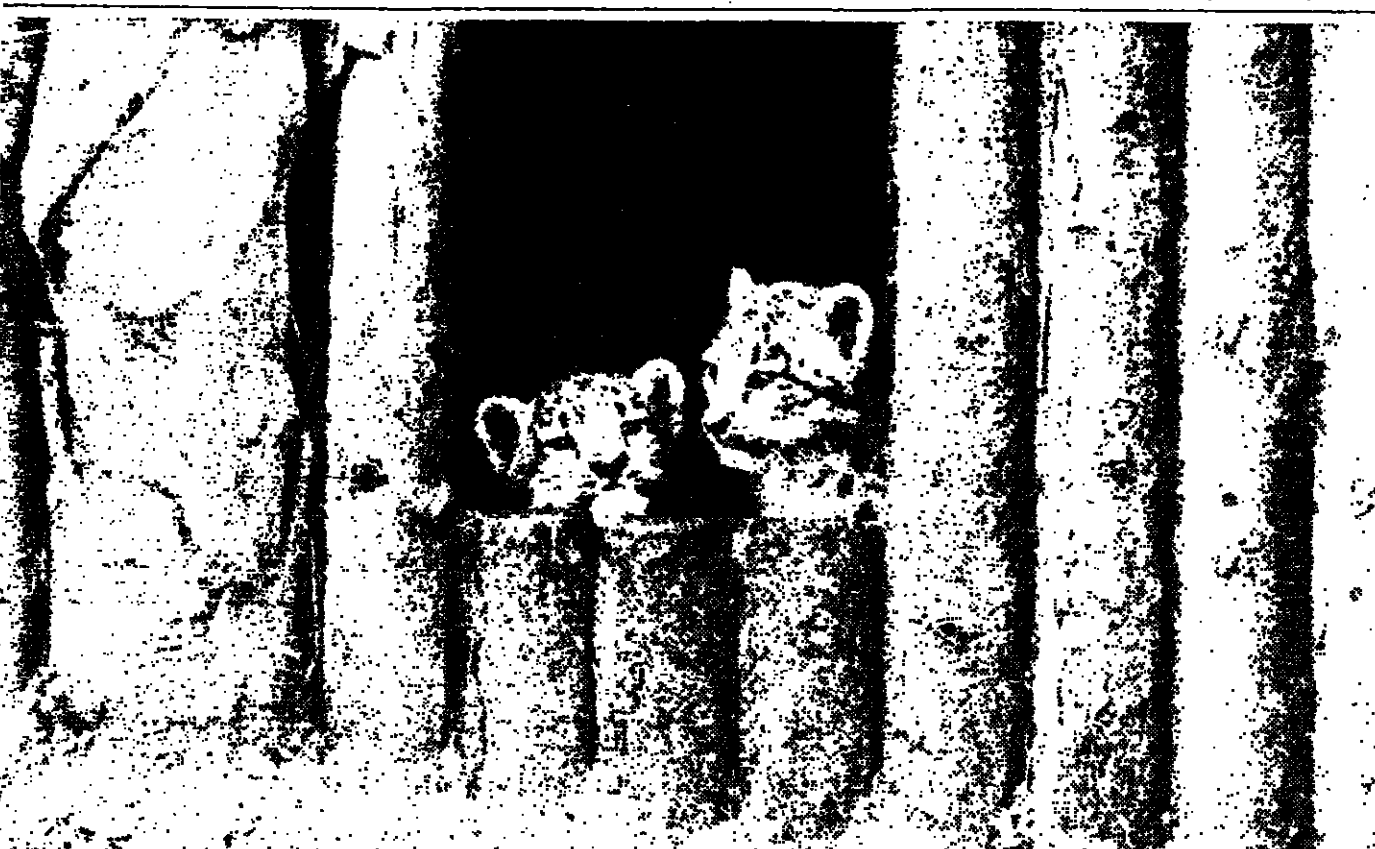
The Americans have come down on the side of a single pan-Arab delegation, representing

ing all the "confrontation states" and including Palestinians and Lebanese. The Arabs would accept this but Israel so far has refused.

Mr Dayan was greeted by a double column advertisement in the New York Times today headed: "Are we welcoming the murderer of our sons?" It was inserted by the American Palestine Committee and alleged that Mr Dayan, when he was Defence Minister, ordered the attack on the USS Liberty during the war of 1967.

The Liberty was a communications spy ship, monitoring the radio waves during the war. It was in the war zone, was attacked by the Israeli air force and 24 members of the crew were killed.

The advertisement alleged that CIA documents, from which it published inconclusive extracts, proved that the Israelis knew that the Liberty was an American ship. The Israelis have always said the attack was a mistake, made at the height of the war.



Male and female snow leopard cubs born at Mr John Aspinall's Howletts Zoo park, Kent, 12 weeks ago take a look at the outside world.

Thatcher plan 'threat to Commons power'

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Mrs Thatcher's proposal that there should be a referendum on any industrial dispute that brought about a constitutional crisis was a dangerous and absurd proposal, Mr Foot, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the Commons, said yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference in Edinburgh, he said: "It is in the House of Commons that the community of Britain is supposed to make its final decisions on these matters. The House has to be directly answerable to the people and to establish the kind of institutions which are going to work. That is what we have been doing."

The Labour Government had restored to the Commons some of the responsibility that the Heath Government took away from it. It had established institutions that could help to ease industrial relations.

In asserting the responsibility of the Government and Parliament, Mr Foot was echoing opinions being voiced privately by some Conservative MPs yesterday. It was emphasized by members of the Shadow Cabinet that neither they nor Mrs Thatcher accepted the proposition that a Conservative Government would land itself in the kind of confrontation with the

unions that Mr Brian Walden, her interviewer on Sunday, had envisaged. Mr John Biffen, Conservative MP for Oswestry, who was for a time Mrs Thatcher's front-bench team, said in a BBC radio interview yesterday that it was tremendously important that Mrs Thatcher's suggestion (made in the *Weekend World* programme on Sunday) should be put into its context.

"It would be put forward only as a possible alternative to a general election, for consideration in the circumstances which might arise in the future; it was no more than that," he said. "It is important to emphasize that the ramifications of the suggestion do need very careful analysis."

If that was done, Mr Biffen said, it would be seen that there were powerful objections to the referendum on grounds of principle. In the words of Edmund Burke, it would tend to usurp the authority of Parliament.

MPs were representatives and not delegates and should vote as their consciences dictated on any particular issue while, of course, remaining answerable to the electorate at a general election. That did not mean that Mrs Thatcher's suggestion should be ruled out completely. There was an argument that could be put forward for a referendum on the kind of issue

Continued on page 2, col 3

Five die in Scottish coach crash

By a Staff Reporter

Five people were killed—two men and three women—and 29 injured when a coach plunged 40ft down an embankment yesterday after being in collision with a Range Rover at Birkenside on the A68 near Lauder, Borders. The Range Rover was towing a horse-box.

All the dead were passengers in the coach. The drivers of both vehicles were detained in hospital in Edinburgh. The coach, which was owned by the East Yorkshire Transport Company of Hull, was on its regular service between Hull and Glasgow, via Edinburgh.

The injured were taken to the Peal Hospital, Galashiels, and the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Among them were a 11-month-old child and its parents and a three-year-old girl and her mother. All were detained in hospital.

Police appealed for witnesses among those who were travelling along the road between 3.40 and 3.50 yesterday afternoon and who might have seen the crash or events leading up to it to get in touch with them at Galashiels or through their local police station.

A casualty reporting centre was set up so that relatives of friends of passengers could obtain information. The number is Hawick 3294.

Photograph, page 2

New mediation talks in bread dispute

By Tim Jones
Labour Reporter

Talks between the union and the employers aimed at ending the strike that has halted most of the bread production in England and Wales were under way last night at the offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) in London.

Earlier both sides had been given the opportunity of studying recommendations for settling the dispute formulated over the weekend by the mediator, Dr Norman Ross, of Birmingham University.

Before the meeting, Mr

Samuel Maddox, general secretary of the Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union, indicated that his executive were happy with the recommendations dealing with their claim for Bank holiday and time-off payments.

Back at work: Union members working for small independent bakers were back at work yesterday after the union had agreed they should not be involved in the dispute (The Press Association reports).

Mr Morris Zimmerman, director of the Master Bakers Association, representing four thousand small bakeries, said: "Our members are working absolutely flat out."

Reports, page 6

Deputy to take over as ITN editor

By a Staff Reporter
Mr David Nicholas, deputy editor of Independent Television News, is to succeed Mr Nigel Ryan as editor and chief executive. Mr Ryan is joining NBC News in America as vice-president in charge of special documentary programmes.

Mr Nicholas, who is 47, joined ITN in 1960 and became deputy editor three years later. He took up the editorship when Mr Ryan leaves on November 4, after nine years as editor.

A former newspaper reporter, he has produced the successful *News at Ten* and general election results programmes since 1966. Together with Mr Ryan and the ITN team he was awarded the Royal Television Society's silver medal for the ITN coverage of the first manned Moon landing, Apollo 11.

Hotel bombs in Miami area

Miami, Sept 19.—Bombs exploded in recreation areas and lobbies at four luxury hotels in Miami and Miami Beach early today, but little damage and no injuries were reported. A group of Cuban exiles demanding freedom for political prisoners in Cuba claimed responsibility.—AP.

Sailor rescued

The attempt by Mr Enda Rabbitt, an Irishman, to sail the Atlantic single-handed failed yesterday when he was rescued from a drifting rubber dinghy 500 miles west of Ireland.

Prison hostages

Porto, Portugal, Sept 19.—Twelve armed prisoners at Custodia jail here today seized 15 hostages, including the seriously wounded prison governor, and demanded to be allowed to leave the country.

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Rise in earnings held at 8.8pc as prices soared

Base two held average earnings in Britain to 8.8 per cent. The figure to the end of July was much lower than expected at the start of the year. The same period prices rose by 17.6 per cent. The figures figure was distorted somewhat by some workers holding off acceptance phase two settlements. Page 15

Ten flown off oil rig

Lieutenants have flown 119 men off the Dunlin A oil platform, 120 miles west of Shetland, after they had spent work in protest at the management's refusal to recognize a workers' union. On arrival at Aberdeen airport some of them said the management threatened to call in the Navy if they did not leave. Page 2

Lebanon strife

Force fighting has flared up again in Lebanon between Palestinian fighters and right-wing forces there supported by Israel. At least 40 people, many of them civilians, were killed. Travellers said that both sides seemed to be preparing for action on a larger scale. Page 5

Dr Owen to visit Soviet Union

Dr Owen is to visit Moscow from October 9 to 11. The Foreign Secretary will seek the Soviet Government's views on the Anglo-American initiative for a Rhodesian settlement. The Russians have been sniping at the plan. Page 4

Setback for shares

Heavy selling in the first two hours on the London stock market resulted in the FT index closing 15 points lower at 516.9, its worst session for seven months. Speculation that there might be official moves this week to stop interest rates falling further caused gilt to dip by as much as £2. Page 15

L'alternative

Launched for those who find the opinions of *Le Monde* too left-wing, *L'Informa*, the new evening paper in Paris, got off the ground with an opening run of 350,000 copies though the hoped-for regular sales figure is around 110,000. Page 4

Biko protest

A multiracial meeting called to protest over the death in detention of Mr Steve Biko, South Africa's Black Consciousness movement leader, has demanded the resignation of Mr James Kruger, who is Minister of Justice, Police and Prisons. Church leaders joined politicians in condemning the Government. Page 5

Businessman buys £83,500 Rolls

An unnamed international businessman has bought a gold-plated Rolls-Royce Phantom VI Landauette for £83,500, the highest price ever paid for a car in Britain. The car is a two-way radio, an 11-inch television set and a cocktail bar. The initials "BVK" are outlined in gold on the rear doors. Page 2

Israel complains

Israel is to file an official complaint against Uganda after an incident in which an Ethiopian airliner on an international flight was allegedly forced to land at Entebbe airport to enable the security forces there to search for Israeli nationals among the passengers. Page 5

Coffee-barley mix

Coffee-barley mix: Coffee blended with barley is to be sold by J. Lyons to cut prices. Page 2

Poster training

The National Foster Care Association has recommended training courses for foster-parents to prepare for the stresses of the job. Page 3

Santa Monica

Roman Polanski is committed to jail for psychiatric tests but his admission is delayed to allow him to complete work on a film. Page 5

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HOME NEWS

Union protests about rejection of motion for Labour conference

By Paul Routledge

The Labour Party's largest union affiliate, the Transport and General Workers' Union, has protested at the rejection of a motion for the Labour conference to consider an alternative economic strategy for the Government.

The National Union of Public Employees will challenge exclusion from the agenda of a motion calling for more socialist policies, including further nationalization, increased public spending and import controls. Similar objectives were adopted by the Trades Union Congress two weeks ago.

The union will ask delegates on the first day of the conference to reject a report from the conference arrangements committee, which has refused to put the union's motion on the agenda under the "catch all" clause on standing orders that disallows motions covering more than one subject.

A resolution on unemployment tabled by the second largest affiliate, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering

Workers, is also understood to have been ruled out of order on a similar ground, but the Government will not escape censure from the trade union left over its economic policies.

The public employees have instead a full-page advertisement in the party's annual report to the conference to tell delegates that theirs is just one of the resolutions not appearing on the agenda. The resolution's contents are printed in full "in the interests of democracy", and the motion opens with an insistence that the Government must create an economic base for a Labour victory at the next election.

It calls on the Government to introduce socialist planning measures to attack the fundamental weakness of the British economy and proposes a nine-point programme, including an extension of public ownership, an expanded role for the National Enterprise Board, compulsory planning agreements with industry, the restoration of cuts in public spending, and wide import controls.

Cuts 'have caused few hospital closures'

By John Roper

Health Services Correspondent

Of 106 hospital closures approved between the middle of 1974 and March this year, 97 were agreed by community health councils and only nine were challenged, Mr Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, said yesterday.

Few closures had been hastened by the need to conserve resources, he said. Most were planned, and in general facilities were either replaced or had outlived their purpose. The National Health Service was expanding.

The minister said he was determined to continue redistribution of health service cash to reduce inequalities between and within regions. "It cannot be done without trading on the toes of the better-provided regions. But we cannot allow the gap to widen or even stay as wide as it is."

During the next few years he would introduce a system of dividing up capital allocation according to the principles set out for revenue allocation by the Resource Allocation Working Party.

Mr Ennals said he was giving special consideration to two proposed changes. First, to relate the population served more closely to the expected allocation level in the year for which it was made; and second, to allow for the effect of varying price levels and costs in different parts of the country.

Mr Ennals also announced the Government's guidelines for priorities on spending in the health and social services over the next decade. The document, *The Way Forward*, is based on the consultative document, the first of its kind, issued by Mrs Castle, the Secretary of State's predecessor.

Economies and rationalization in the acute sector of medicine would be necessary so that services for the elderly, disabled, the mentally ill and mentally handicapped could be improved, the minister said.

But such savings on public spending could be passed on to the Government would like. Many changes would depend on reallocation of resources and on greater efficiency.

More local health services, because community hospitals, and there would be more help for old people living in their own homes.

Increased priority would be given to preventive medicine. Because of delays in completing projects, the target for extra beds in medical schools of about 4,000 a year in 1980 could not be met.

In a chapter on more effective use of resources, the document notes that one district has saved £21,000 a year on a budget of £63,000 by adopting a more economical way of maintaining grounds and gardens.

The British Medical Association said last night that the new priorities document was "a welcome sign that the Government was no longer prepared to provide the comprehensive health service the public had come to expect it should say."

Dearer Saturday paper

Saturday editions of the London Evening News will cost 10p from this week because of increased production costs. The price of Monday-to-Friday editions was recently increased to 8p.

expected to formulate and declare national policies for further education, Canon Tolley is expected to say. But the colleges demanded certain essential freedoms at institutional level: freedom to set the curriculum, to make appointments, to select students, to innovate, to challenge national policy, and freedom of management. Some buffer was needed in order to maintain those freedoms.

But was local government an effective or preferred buffer? Were there not real dangers that local government in its present trends might be destroying the very freedoms that it should be nurturing? Central government had progressively tightened its control over local government. The essential freedom afforded to local authorities was more and more becoming that of doing nothing.

They had failed to do anything about the debacle in teacher training. They had failed to meet the needs of industry.

Workers flown off oil rig after dispute

By Christopher Thomas

Relays of helicopters have flown more than a hundred men off a North Sea oil platform after they had stopped work in protest at the management's refusal to recognize a workers' committee.

This happened on the Dunlin A platform, 120 miles north-west of Shetland. The employees, McDermott's Oceanics Drilling Contractors, refused in Aberdeen last night to comment. They are to make a statement today.

Partners in the field, which is modest in size and was discovered in July, 1973, are Shell, Esso, Conoco, Gulf and British National Oil Exploration.

Shell Esso said: "One hundred and nineteen men were flown off over the weekend, leaving about 53 men on the platform continuing to operate. Oceanics are preparing to man up again, presumably with a different crew."

The men were flown to Sunburgh, Shetland, and then to Aberdeen by chartered flight. On arrival some said that the management had threatened to call in the Navy if they did

not leave, because technically they would be guilty of mutiny.

The Dunlin A, Shell Esso's newest platform, was moved into place three months ago in one of the smallest fields that Shell has decided to drill. Production is expected to start in autumn next year. The stoppage has halted hooking-up pipes and electricity.

Shell Esso said that next week it would send McDermott's Oceanics to the platform. The dispute has not affected production.

The platform is to be linked with a Brent Field and will eventually be pumping oil down the 100 mile underwater pipeline to Sullom Voe in Shetland. Reserves are expected to be about 400 million barrels.

The dispute came as the TUC was hoping for the first recognition agreement for an offshore production platform. A deal is expected over the Occidental Piper Alpha production platform in the next few weeks.

Most of the production and maintenance work on the platform are expected to join the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

Buffer needed to maintain freedom at colleges

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

Another scathing attack on the way in which many local authorities are carrying out their management responsibilities for further education colleges in their areas is to be delivered by Canon George Tolley, Principal of Sheffield City Polytechnic, in a speech to the annual conference of the British Educational Administration Society at the end of this week.

Canon Tolley disagrees, however, with the Association of Polytechnic Teachers, who recently called for the removal of polytechnics from local government control. He believes that local government, for all its faults, is still the best means of providing the necessary buffer between central government and the individual colleges.

"I would prefer to know a little bit more about the discomfort of the fire before jumping out of the frying pan", Canon Tolley said.

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expected to formulate and declare national policies for further education, Canon Tolley is expected to say. But the colleges demanded certain essential freedoms at institutional level: freedom to set the curriculum, to make appointments, to select students, to innovate, to challenge national policy, and freedom of management. Some buffer was needed in order to maintain those freedoms.

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NUM to reopen bonus scheme talks

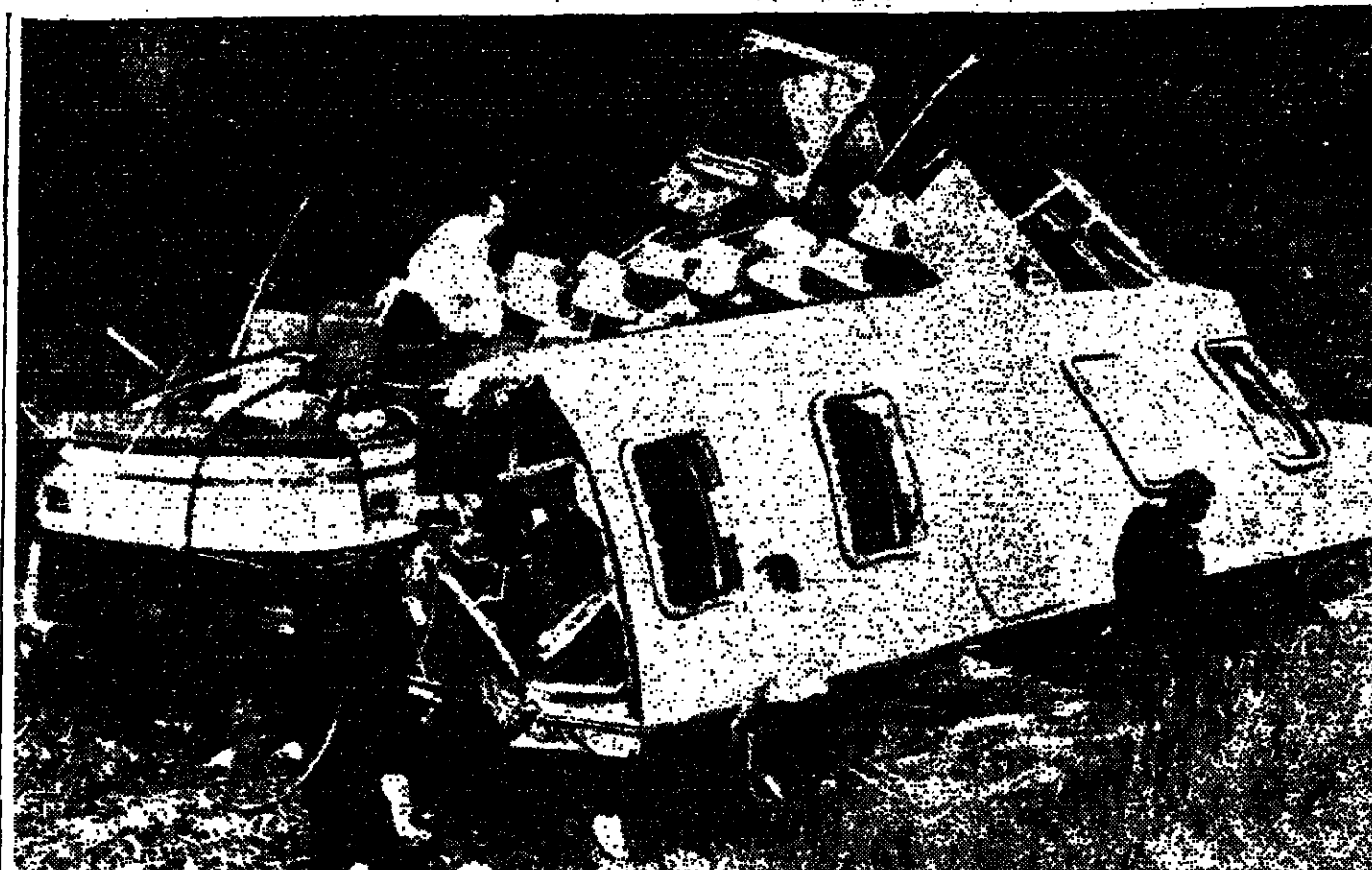
Continued from page 1

October 13 before a final recommendation is put to the miners' conference. The TUC would then come into operation not later than January 1.

At yesterday's meeting of the negotiators Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of the Yorkshire miners argued that the union should submit the £135 claim immediately.

"There were one or two who said we should ignore the 12-month rule and press the claim immediately," Mr Scargill said afterwards. "I think we would have been a bit premature. We need to understand what the resolution means."

But the turning point appears to have been lack of TUC support for a claim that some colliery leaders did not want to embarrass the TUC, and said that after the Trades Union Congress vote to sustain the miners could not expect the backing of other unions,



The wreckage of the Rolls-Royce in which five people died yesterday.

Gold-plated Rolls-Royce sold for £83,500

By Peter Waymark

Motoring Correspondent

An unknown buyer took delivery of a new gold-plated Rolls-Royce yesterday and paid £83,500, making it what is thought to be the most expensive car ever sold in Britain.

The vehicle is a Rolls-Royce Phantom VI limousine, the largest and most expensive of the Phantom series. It is produced in a year. All fittings are gold-plated, even the flying figure on the bonnet.

There is a cocktail cabinet with a built-in bar, an 11 inch television set, radio, telephone and intercom with the chauffeur, separate air conditioning for the passenger compartment, and a burglar alarm.

The buyer, who has asked that his name should not be disclosed, is an international businessman with several homes, including one in London. He is said not to be a Middle East oil sheikh. The only positive clue to his identity is the initials "BVK" outlined in gold on the rear doors.

The car weighs 21 tons and took 60 people about 18 months to build. It was sold by Jack Barclay & Co., the world's largest Rolls-Royce distributor, from its London showroom in Berkeley Square, where passers-by were able to catch a glimpse of it yesterday. Mr H. H. Goldsmith, marketing executive of

Dutton-Forsyth, the Barclay parent company, said the previous highest price paid for a Rolls in Britain was £54,000.

The Phantom series is a convertible car with a soft rear roof that can be rolled back for privacy. Another recent customer, a princess, specified silk furnishings, side curtains for privacy and special cabinets and tables to carry her silver vanity set.

It is possible to buy a yet more expensive Rolls, an armoured version of the Phantom, sold to political leaders who ride in daily fear of an assassin's bullet. Rolls-Royce is reluctant to go into details about the effectiveness of the armour but the price, for anyone interested, is £150,000.

Windscale inquiry may be frightening tourists away

From a Special Correspondent

Whitehaven

The picturesque village of Ravensgill, Cumbria, may be suffering a loss of tourists because of its close proximity to British Nuclear Fuels' plant at Windscale and because of all the publicity attending the inquiry into the company's proposals for an oxide-reprocessing plant.

That was the impression gained at the inquiry at Whitehaven, yesterday from one of the objectors to BNF's plans. Mr Joseph Thompson, of the Network For Nuclear Concern, who had previously been asked by Mr Justice Parker, who is conducting the inquiry, if he could supply further information about the sale of mussels

collected from the sea at Ravensgill.

Mr Thompson said he had had difficulty in getting the information. There seems to be a bit of an atmosphere developing in Ravensgill.

Mr Thompson said that a friend who had collected mussels might be able to obtain further information and a more accurate assessment of the mussel harvest.

Radioactive discharges from Windscale are readily observed in fish life, and Mr Thompson has observed that the Ministry of Agriculture's Fisheries Research Laboratory, at Lowestoft, has insisted that mussels from the area were not regularly consumed. Mr Thompson has maintained that this is incorrect.

MP says Luton airport is to be allowed to expand

From Our Correspondent

Luton

The Government plans to let Luton airport expand while it delays a decision on a new third London airport, according to Mr Robin Corbett, Labour MP for Hemel Hempstead.

He said: "Despite massive opposition to this expansion, I predict that the Government will allow the airport to increase its passenger handling from the present two million to five million a year."

Mr Corbett described that as "a slap in the face for almost every parish and district council in Hertfordshire, as well as for the county council itself."

The airport is owned by Luton Borough Council. Its profits help to keep down the town's rates. But Luton itself escapes the noise nuisance.

Flight paths are over the surrounding areas of Hertfordshire and south Bedfordshire.

Mr Corbett said: "I have been told by someone involved in the preparation of the White Paper that Luton will get its way because this is the cheapest short-term solution."

Expansion at Luton would mean going back to the noise levels of 1973 when Concorde was flying from the airport, he said.

Our Air Correspondent writes: The White Paper on airports policy is unlikely to be published before October or November. The Government will set out its views on how the main airports in the South-east, Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Luton, should expand, and how those in the provinces can relieve congestion.

Paedophiles jeered and pelted by angry crowd

By Penny Symon

Members of the Paedophile Information Exchange, who believe in legalizing sexual relationships between adults and children, were jeered, spat upon and pelted with sink bombs and rotten eggs by a screaming crowd of demonstrators as they went into the Conway Hall in

London, last night for a meeting.

About 150 demonstrators, most of whom were from the National Front, included groups of women who shouted that children must be protected from members of PIE who were "child molesters" and "perverts". As the meeting, atten-

ded by about one hundred people, went on, police reinforcements were called up and ambulances were on hand in case of casualties.

Mr Gerard Kemp, a reporter for the Daily Telegraph, was badly scratched under his eye and had his coat torn as he went in to cover the meeting.

Before he had a chance to explain that he was a reporter, one of the crowd shouted, "He's one of them."

The general management committee of the South Place Ethical Society, proprietors of Conway Hall, had agreed by 15 votes to two to allow PIE to use the hall.

NUM to reopen bonus scheme talks

Continued from page 1

which had been so crucial in the disputes of 1972 and 1974. The claim has not been finalised, but the TUC will be consulted, probably with a leisurely inalterable, on scope for improving miners' pay other than through a productivity deal which is already permissible. But in the meantime there may be some movement in wages among other groups of workers, and that could colour the whole picture," Mr Gormley said. "If other groups of workers are allowed to rebel it is going to be very difficult to say the TUC ruling should hold."

The new productivity proposals put to the miners' negotiating team yesterday by the coal board are almost exactly the same as the scheme defeated by a handful of votes at the NUM conference with a figure of £20 a week extra for face workers has been asserted. Other men in the industry who

work away from the face and on the surface would receive an agreed proportion of the face bonus.

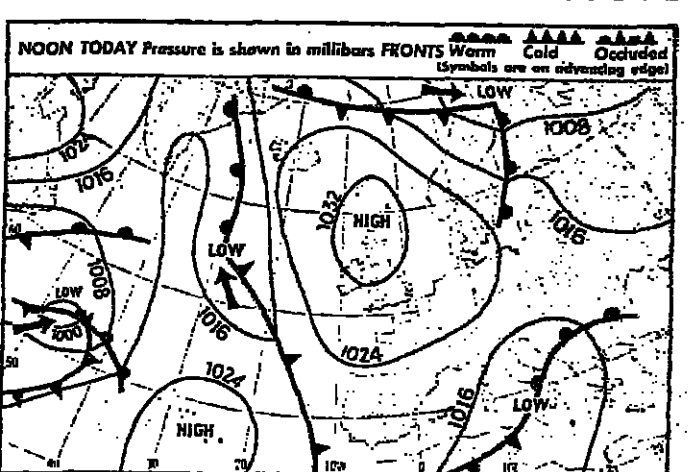
The pit incentive scheme will bring methodical steps in the collieries charged with deciding an agreed standard for face and development workers. Bonus will begin when three quarters of that standard is achieved. Any disagreement over setting standards would be settled by conciliation.

The tripartite coal industry examination of 1974 prepared by the Government, the NCB and the mining unions emphasised the importance of an effective incentive scheme for the industry, but a locally based productivity scheme was thrown out by the men in a ballot later that year. Since that date a national scheme was tried without success, and there is still opposition to local incentives among left-wingers and those who do not want the industry to return to the piecework days of more than ten years ago.

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Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 6.43 am Sun sets: 7.4 pm
Moon rises: 11.53 pm Moon sets: 11.53 pm
First Quarter: 7.18 am
Lighting up: 7.34 pm to 6.15 am
High water: London Bridge, 7.10 am, 6.5m (21.3ft); 7.30 pm, 6.5m (21.3ft).
Low water: London Bridge, 12.14 am, 11.2m (36.8ft); 12.43 pm, 10.8m (35.3ft).
Dover, 4.26 am, 6.0m (19.6ft); 5.0 pm, 5.9m (19.3ft).
Hull, 11.44 am, 6.6m (21.6ft).
Liverpool, 4.28 am, 3.3m (10.8ft); 5.12 pm, 3.1m (10.1ft).

Disturbance, Isle of Man, N Ireland: Dry, rather cloudy, some sun; intervals; wind mainly E light; max temp 14°C (57°F).

Borders: Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dry, sunny periods; wind light; max temp 10°C to 12°C (50°F to 54°F).

SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland: Dry, sunny periods; wind light variable; max temp 14°C to 16°C (57°F to 61°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Mostly dry, sunny intervals, rather cloudy in SE, with a little rain at times; temp near normal but rather cold in E.

Sea passages: S. North Sea: N or NE, light or moderate; sea slight or moderate.

Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NE, moderate or fresh, perhaps strong at times; sea moderate.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind E, moderate or fresh; sea moderate.

At the resorts

24 hours to 6 pm, September 20

Resort	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
London	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
Birmingham	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
Manchester	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
Cardiff	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
Belfast	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
Edinburgh	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
Glasgow	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
Liverpool	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15
Newcastle	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15	10-15

Club employees to be polled again on union

By Our Labour Staff

Officials of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) are planning to hold a second attitude survey on trade union membership among employees of the Playboy Club, London, who have already rejected the concept.

Acas officials have agreed to declare their first report recommending recognition of the supervisory section of the Transport and General Workers' Union void because they broke Employment Protection Act regulations by not including in their questionnaire the Playboy Staff Association.

Acas has offered to pay the legal costs of the club.

MP protests at removal of boy from ship

By Richard Mitchell

Mr Richard Mitchell, Labour MP for Southampton, Itchen, protested to the Lord Chancellor yesterday about events leading to the removal of a boy aged three from a ship bound for Melbourne, and strapped to a bosun's chair. The child was made a ward of court as he and his mother were leaving in the ship.

The affair began with the intervention of the boy's father, who lives at Killingworth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Police find cottage where US missionary was held

Detectives yesterday found the place where Mr Kirk Anderson, aged 21, a Mormon missionary, was held hostage before being released in London on Saturday. They said he was held at a rented holiday cottage on an isolated farm on the outskirts of Okehampton, Devon.

Earlier, Mr Anderson's former girl friend, Joyce McKinney, aged 27, and an American, Keith May, aged 25, were

stopped in a Vauxhall car at a police roadblock on the A30 at Crookhampton, between Exeter and Okehampton.

The couple were taken to Heavitree police station, Exeter, where police officers picked them up to take them to Epsom for questioning. Officers also examined the cottage.

The police said a fourth person, a Briton, was detained early yesterday. Six people in all were being questioned.

Tories 'passing the buck to the people'

Continued from page 1

that had not been mentioned. But that would not be a referendum in the normal sense; rather it would amount to a single-issue general election.

"That would lead to enormous complications," he said. "If there was such a confrontation with a union the referendum could do one of two things. The first was that the country would support the Government, in which case the authority of the Government would be explicitly strengthened."

The other alternative would be that the country would not support the Government. "In those circumstances I think it is inconceivable that the government of the day would not fall and go to the country in a general election."

Mr Foot did not think Mrs Thatcher's plan would ever be put into operation. It would be put out of court as soon as the public and members of the

Conservative Party had looked at it.

Any attempt to put the plan into operation would cause more divisions in society. He did not believe that an industrial dispute could be regarded as a constitutional issue, such as the Common Market, or the establishment of Scottish and Welsh assemblies, on which referendums could be held.

Mrs Thatcher's proposal would mean the final disruption of the authority of the Commons.

Mr Alan Beith, Liberal Party Chief Whip, said at Craster, Northumberland, last night that the Conservative Party was sinking deeper into confusion over its economic and industrial policies.

"Mrs Thatcher's latest excursion on the subject of a referendum underlines the confusion," he said. "In failing to recognise the different and contradictory industrial strategies of her own

employment spokesman [Mr Prior] and her industry spokesman [Sir Keith Joseph] she has once more demonstrated her policy on the crucial question of industrial relations."

Mrs Thatcher herself summed up the hypocrisy of what she was now suggesting when she attacked Sir Harold Wilson's use of the referendum in 1975.

She had said: "Used by the Labour Government, the referendum is a tactical device to get over a split in their own party, and any constitutional consequences are, therefore, of only secondary importance in the Government's eyes."

"If the Government cannot agree, gone is the discipline of resignation, gone is the principle of accountability to Parliament. The new doctrine is to pass the buck to the people."

Diary, page 12
Letters, page 13

Overseas sailing prices

Destination	Ship	Rate
Australia	Sch. 101	£100
Japan	Sch. 102	£120
South America	Sch. 103	£150
India	Sch. 104	£180
China	Sch. 105	£200

Overseas flying prices

Destination	Flight	Rate
Australia	Qantas	£100
Japan	British	£120
South America	Boeing	£150
India	Indian	£180
China	China	£200

HOME NEWS

The poor 'pay highest prices for food and warmth, get least aid'

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs
Correspondent

In present-day Britain the poor are cheated of value for what little money they have. Their cost of living is higher, they get a worse deal from public services, they are deliberately charged more by the nationalized fuel industries, and the very poorest get least welfare benefits.

Those allegations are documented in *Why The Poor Pay More*, published today for the National Consumer Council.

The contributors to the book argue that the poor are deprived of freedom of choice because their spending is predominantly on essentials.

Poor families spend two thirds of their income on the basic necessities of food, fuel, and housing: three times the proportion spent by rich families.

Their fuel costs them more because of discrimination in fuel pricing. A poor family using electric fires may pay £44 for warmth that would cost a rich family, living in a well insulated home with gas central heating, only £5.

Their food costs more because they are obliged to buy in small quantities and lack transport to reach supermarkets and hypermarkets. The small quantities of food bought are more expensive than the most popular size.

Housing is the one area in which the poor often live in poor value council homes or houses bought outright in the past, often get better value for money than the rich, but a significant minority, living in private furnished accommodation, get the worst value of all. In any case the poor cannot live where they choose but "end to be stuck with what the system provides, and its mistakes".

Drug find 'sparked off tale of Yard corruption'

From Our Correspondent
Southend

More than half a ton of drugs found in a police raid had come from a police control store, it was alleged at Southend Crown Court, Essex, yesterday. Defence counsel said the discovery "sparked off a bizarre tale of corruption and dishonesty" at the Yard.

The trader, John Goss, aged 32, of Boscombe Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex, pleaded guilty to possessing 25 lb of cannabis in a garage at Upper Brentwood Road, Hornchurch, on March 23. He also pleaded guilty to dishonestly handling stolen carpets and a coat. He was given a conditional discharge for two years.

Mr Fabian Evans, for the prosecution, said plastic bags, sheets and rubber gloves in the garage bore traces of a resin.

He continued: "The resin was found to have adhering to it particles of minium dust which form part of the fingerprint powder used by the Metropolitan Police. The drugs were part of a large consignment seized by the police in 1976, which should have been destroyed. This matter is being rigorously investigated by the Metropolitan Police."

Mr Jeffrey Thomas, QC, for the defence, said the drug squad officer, Sergeant X, had blackmailed Mr Goss into committing the offences.

He added: "He, together with three of his colleagues, one of them a detective chief inspector, has been suspended over this case. He has not been charged."

Judge Ward agreed that the name should not be disclosed. He said: "There is no question of protecting him. It is a case of simple justice."

Mr Thomas said there had been certain admissions by the Director of Public Prosecutions, that Mr Goss had made a statement to Scotland Yard that the drugs found in his garage had come from a police control store and that four officers had been suspended. The DPP envisaged Mr Goss as the main prosecution witness in any charges that might be brought against the officers.

Members of Tameside Borough Council, who have been called to an extraordinary meeting this morning to discuss a proposed National Front rally in their territory next month, each received a letter yesterday from a senior official of the trade union and non-violent counter-demonstration to the proposed National Front march and rally on October 8.

His letter asks the councillors not only to support an application by Mr James Anderson, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, for a ban on the proposed outdoor march but also to refuse to let Hyde Town Hall to the National Front for the indoor rally proposed as a conclusion to the demonstration. Mr Anderson saw senior officials at the Home Office in London yesterday.

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Alisdair Aird, a former research director at the National Consumer Council, calculates that it costs the poor 11 per cent more to get the equivalent goods and services enjoyed by average families, excluding housing.

That "consumer detriment" is estimated at more than £100 a year for typical poor families.

"Money down the drain" is a sort of fine or penalty imposed on people simply because they are poor.

Because a large proportion of their income goes on essentials, the poor are found to have been most severely affected by inflation. Food and fuel prices have risen more rapidly than those of other commodities.

If the poor borrow to make ends meet they have to pay more for credit. True rates of interest for small loans may go as high as 1,706 per cent.

The poor pay a higher proportion of their earnings in national insurance contributions, but get less out of the welfare system than the rich receive from tax allowances and the better-off, yet receive less medical care, even when dying.

Professor Maurice Backett of Nottingham University says terminally ill patients in social group five are five times less likely than the top group to receive a home visit from a consultant.

The editor, Miss Frances Williams, says some of the difficulties reflect our unequal society, but the contributors do recommend some solutions, including reallocation of medical resources, abolition of the contributory principle for national insurance benefits, and formation of bulk-purchasing clubs.

Why the Poor Pay More (Macmillan, £5.95; paperback £2.95).

Union appeals to council to ban Front rally

From a Staff Reporter
Manchester

Members of Tameside Borough Council, who have been called to an extraordinary meeting this morning to discuss a proposed National Front rally in their territory next month, each received a letter yesterday from a senior official of the trade union and non-violent counter-demonstration to the proposed National Front march and rally on October 8.

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Drug addiction verdict on minister's son

Piers Shore, aged 20, son of the Secretary of State for the Environment, died as a result of drug addiction, a coroner said yesterday.

An inquest at Battersley, London, was told that he died from an overdose of morphine, which the coroner, Dr Paul Knapman, said was probably the result of heroin injections.

Mr Shore died on September 9 in a backstreet house in Putney, where friends of his were squatting.

After hearing evidence the coroner said: "It is clear to me that Piers Shore has died from addiction to drugs. He started at 15 with cannabis and he died at 20 from heroin."

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WEST EUROPE

Adherence to pluralist democracy may be membership condition

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Sept 19

A declaration of the EEC's commitment to the principles of pluralist democracy is to be drafted by the European Commission and submitted to the Community's member states for their endorsement on the occasion of the first direct elections to the European Parliament, which are due to be held in May or June next year.

The Commission will also suggest that the declaration should be incorporated into the text of the treaties of accession which Greece, Spain and Portugal, which have all applied to join the Community, will be required to sign on entry.

The proposed declaration was one of the main ideas to come out of an informal weekend gathering of the 13 commissioners at an inn in the Ardennes at which, fortified by a two-star cuisine, they addressed themselves to the political and economic implications of enlarging the EEC.

The question of what action to take should a member state cease to be a democracy was raised by Dr Owen, the British Foreign Secretary, earlier this year. He said then that there might be a need for a legal mechanism to expel members.

Instead, the idea is that an EEC member should formally pledge itself to a general statement of democratic principles. The declaration would then serve as a reference point to which the

provided for under the Treaty of Rome.

The fact that all three new candidates have recently emerged from periods of right-wing dictatorial rule is the main spur behind the various suggestions now circulating for giving some formal recognition to the fundamental political principles on which the Community is based.

There may, however, also be an unspoken feeling in some minds that there would be no harm in any case in defining those principles in textual form, given that two of the EEC's existing members, France and Italy, harbour big communist parties that could come to power in the not too distant future.

There appears to have been little or no support by Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission, and his colleagues, for Dr Owen's idea of some legal procedure for expelling members. Attempts to draft a precise legal definition of "pluralist democracy", it was felt, might do more harm than good.

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attention of erring governments could be drawn by their

The reasoning in Brussels is that this kind of political constraint, expressed through the stern disapproval of their peers, would be more effective in keeping member governments on the path of righteousness than attempts to impose a legal definition of democracy on the Community.

At their weekend retreat, the commissioners also discussed the possibility of setting up a new fund to provide financial help to the three applicant countries until they had achieved full integration into the EEC's economic structure.

It was further suggested that something longer than the five-year transitional period of membership, of the kind negotiated by Britain, Denmark and Ireland, might be necessary in the case of Greece, Portugal and Spain, because of their relative economic backwardness.

There was agreement among the commissioners that the security of the French and Italian to secure protection for their Mediterranean farmers against the competition of the newcomers should not be allowed to add to the Community's food surpluses.

Today's first issue ran to 350,000 copies at a price of francs 1.60 (about 19p), the same as its competitor. It hopes to settle down to a circulation of between 100,000 and 120,000.

The lead story is the heading of the rift of the Union of the left, which is described objectively. One of the claims of *L'Informé* is that it will endeavour to achieve what the French press has never really succeeded in doing, that is separating news from comment.

Deferring to this Anglo-Saxon idea, a whole page is devoted to leaders, and independent "opinions and reflections".

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OVERSEAS

Biko protest meeting demands Justice Minister's resignation

From Eric Marsden, Johannesburg, Sept. 19

A resolution demanding the resignation of Mr. James Kruger, Minister of Justice and Police, was passed by a meeting of the Black Consciousness Movement (BCM) in Johannesburg today. The meeting, which was held in a hall in the city, was attended by several hundred people. Mr. Kruger, who is a member of the National Party, has been accused of being responsible for the death of Dr. Martin Luther King and the death of Dr. Biko. The meeting demanded that Mr. Kruger should resign and that the BCM should be allowed to participate in the government of the country. The meeting also demanded that the BCM should be allowed to participate in the government of the country.

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Mr Bhutto's wife opens campaign with threat

From Richard Wigg, Islamabad, Sept. 19

Benazir Bhutto, the recently deposed wife of the late Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, has opened a campaign for the restoration of her husband's government. She has threatened to lead a mass demonstration if her husband is not reinstated as Prime Minister.

Chinese force Tokyo press club to bar Taiwanese

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Sept. 19

The Chinese government has ordered the Japanese Press Club to bar Taiwanese journalists from attending a press conference in Tokyo. The Chinese government has accused the Taiwanese government of interfering in the internal affairs of China.

Australian hostility surprises Dr Eysenck

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne, Sept. 19

Professor Hans-Jürgen Eysenck, a leading psychologist, has expressed surprise at the hostile reception he has received in Australia. He has been accused of being a racist and of being a member of the far right.

Arab call for united fight against epidemic

The Arab League yesterday summoned health officials throughout the Arab world to a Cairo conference this week-end to coordinate the fight against the cholera epidemic in the Middle East. The League said that the epidemic had spread to several countries in the region and that it was a serious threat to public health.

Mr Polanski ordered to jail for psychiatric tests

From Santa Monica, Sept. 19

A California judge today ordered Roman Polanski, the film director, to prison for 90 days to undergo psychiatric tests. The judge said that Polanski had committed a crime and that he needed to be treated.

Carter switch on race case

From Michael Binyon, Washington, Sept. 19

In a significant change of mind, the Carter Administration has decided that race and should be taken into account in deciding university admissions. The administration has said that it will consider the race of applicants in making decisions about who to admit to universities.

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From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Sept. 19

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Firemen suspended

From Port Mitchell, Kentucky, Sept. 19

Three firemen have been suspended from their jobs after they were accused of being involved in a fire that killed a woman. The firemen were accused of being negligent and of not following safety procedures.



Playtime for an Eritrean child among Ethiopian prisoners at the captured town of Keru.

Cholera threatens Ethiopian prisoners

Keru, Eritrea, Sept. 19

The lives of hundreds of Ethiopian prisoners of war are threatened by a possible outbreak of cholera at a crowded prisoner-of-war camp run by guerrillas here. The camp is located in a remote area and has no proper sanitation.

Judges criticize New York delay over Concorde

From Our Own Correspondent, New York, Sept. 19

A three-man federal appeals court in New York today reserved judgment on an appeal by the North American Aviation Co. against a lower court order that Concorde be allowed to land at the city's Kennedy airport. The judges criticized the delay in making a decision.

Fierce fighting again in south Lebanon

Beirut, Sept. 19

Fierce fighting raged today between rival forces battling for control of villages in southern Lebanon. Palestinian sources said Israeli aircraft intensified flights over the combat zone. The fighting was very intense and caused many casualties.

Army purge unlikely in China

From David Bonavia, Hongkong, Sept. 19

A call for increased discipline in the Chinese armed forces, broadcast today by Peking radio, was seen by observers here as a logical follow-through from last month's party congress and not indicative of a fresh purge in the military.

Plane 'was forced down by Uganda'

Jerusalem, Sept. 19

Israel will file an official complaint accusing Uganda of forcing an airliner to land at Entebbe, where it was searched to see if any Israeli nationals were on board, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today. The incident occurred in July 1976.

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- Numerical integration (Waddle formula)
- Linear regression correlation coefficients
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SINCLAIR

WORLD LEADERS IN FINGER TIP ELECTRONICS

Meeting fails to avert threat of a strike

either suspended or fined. He did not elaborate.

In Jakarta, Indonesian badminton officials said today they have rejected proposals that a rivalry body to the International Badminton Federation (IBF) should be formed in an attempt to expand the game.

The Asian Badminton Confederation (ABC) are reportedly planning to set up a rival organization to rival the IBF.

SPORT

Racing

Two horses trying to justify reputations

By Michael Phillips

Racing Correspondent

Two horses which will be run at the end of this week could be of great significance when we come to rate the best two-year-olds seen in Canada during the season in Europe.

Those two horses are the Lakeland Stakes, which will take place at Sandown on Saturday, and the Royal Lodge Stakes, which will be run at Ascot on the same afternoon.

The Lakeland Stakes is the collective of Try My Best, who is expected to be the most promising of the season's best young horses. When he won his first race at Sandown on Saturday, he was only two years old, and only one day after he had won the Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot.

Try My Best, who is owned by the late Mr. J. P. McManis, is a son of the late Mr. J. P. McManis, who was a successful horseman and a member of the House of Commons.

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Carson: has a high opinion of Hills's two-year-old.

companion, Sexton Blake, who has already won the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster, the Seaton Delaval Stakes at Newcastle and the Exeter Stakes at Newmarket this season.

That was a bold statement about a horse who has only won a race for maidens so far but Hills is not one who is prone to making such a statement for nothing.

Carson supports his view. It was Carson who rode Sexton Blake when he beat Solinus at Doncaster yet "this is the best two-year-old I have ridden since Crown Prince" was the remark that Carson was heard to utter after he had partnered Hamilton Sound in a recent gallop on the Downs above Lambourn.

Having won the Solario Stakes at Sandown and two other

fiercely competitive races at Haydock Park, Blake will be a worthy rival for Hamilton Sound on Saturday and we should all be that much the wiser afterwards.

Going on a line through Atherton, Hamilton Sound would not seem to be as good as Formidable, who won the Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury last Saturday, but it is only reasonable to expect Hamilton Sound to have improved since Atherton beat him by a head at Newcastle in June.

All that was his first race. As for Formidable he will now attempt to add the Middle Park Stakes to his growing list of achievements. At Newmarket, Formidable will come face to face with not only Solinus but Music Maestro and that clash ought to help us tie up some loose ends.

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In the season's form, Solinus won the Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot and two other races in Ireland before his winning run was ended by a serious knee injury at Doncaster while Music Maestro achieved unexpected fame at Doncaster by beating Amaranda in the Flying Children Stakes.

With three races restricted to two-year-olds at Lingfield Park this afternoon, the emphasis will again be on members of the upper echelons of the racing world. And with the long-term future in mind, possibly the most interesting runner in the fields for the Lewes Stakes, which is confined to those who have never run, could be Running Ballerina, who is by the triple crown winner Mijinsky and out of that admirable race mare, Running Blue.

Our Newmarket correspondent tells me that he saw this half-sister to Sir Pedro and Padraig gallop on the Limestone trial ground last week when she was ridden by Geoffrey Lewis and that she worked well enough with her more experienced stable companion, False Witness, to suggest that she could easily win a race of this nature.

STATE OF GOING (official): Lingfield Park, Good. Leicester, Very Good. Doncaster, Good.

Canadian Bound loses

Canadian Bound, the world's most expensive yearling horse, lost his first race in the Prix de la Forêt at Longchamps yesterday. Capitalist West, an outsider who had finished only seventh in a small race at Clairefontaine on his previous appearance, won by a neck.

5.30 CHARMING HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,410: 7f 140yds)

1. 4-20-10 Harry Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 2. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 3. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 4. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 5. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 6. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 7. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 8. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 9. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 10. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1.

5.30 LEWES STAKES (2-y-o: £850: 6f)

1. 4-20-10 Harry Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 2. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 3. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 4. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 5. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 6. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 7. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 8. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 9. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 10. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1.

By Our Racing Correspondent

3.0 River Call. 3.30 Showboard. 4.0 House Guard. 4.30 Cerus. 5.0 Nolrims. 5.30 Running Ballerina.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

3.0 Babe in the Wood. 3.30 Showboard. 4.0 House Guard. 4.30 Harry Hedges. 5.0 Colonel's Boy. 5.30 Running Ballerina.

3.45 SEPTEMBER STAKES (3-y-o: £607: 11m)

1. 4-20-10 Harry Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 2. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 3. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 4. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 5. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 6. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 7. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 8. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 9. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 10. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1.

By Our Racing Correspondent

3.15 Persian Pearl. 3.45 Loyal Deed. 3.15 Vicenzo. 3.45 Fine Blue. 4.15 Hit the Roof. 4.45 Hit the Roof.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

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In one of England's most pleasant rural counties, where the process of reorganizing schools on comprehensive lines is near completion, a secondary modern school in one of its smaller towns, which has just become a comprehensive school, has produced a handbook of information about its new model, primarily for the use of parents.

The change in the school's status means that children in the district no longer have the hope of being selected for transfer at the age of 11 to the high, grammar, or technical school in the county town some 14 miles away. Many local parents, especially those who have had higher education themselves, have not disguised their apprehensions about the new situation, or their fears that the new comprehensive school may not adequately equip their children for a subsequent university career or entry into one of the professions.

The new handbook is clearly designed to remove those fears and to win parents' support, and if possible their enthusiasm, too, for the new school. It is a neat, well-produced cyclostyled booklet of some 40 pages, written by the staff, and designed to give a clear picture of the school's aims, resources, and of the care that has gone into its planning in the interests of its pupils. A feature is made of cooperation with parents—

they have an important part to play in keeping close contact with the school.

In view of the admirable sentiments of the handbook, it would seem almost churlish to raise inconvenient questions, but a careful reading of its contents may foster rather than dispel anxieties in the minds of many parents. In such a document they might well have expected to find included in the long list of members of the staff some mention of their academic or other teaching qualifications, but there is none.

"Among many new staff," it is said, "a good number have had experience of comprehensive education elsewhere," a claim that might not necessarily inspire confidence among the sceptical.

But those parents who regard instruction in the clear and correct use of the English language as one of the fundamental objectives of any good school will find serious misgivings about the school's competence in this sphere. However unkind, in view of current controversies about lowered standards of education which are denied so hotly by the teaching profession's spokesmen, it would be wrong not to call attention to the language in which the handbook is written.

There are errors in spelling (eg in "comparatively", "accommodation", and "usage") and in punctuation (including apostrophes mis-placed or omitted). There is inconsistency in the use of

Less than a year after forming a pro-independence government, Mr René Lévesque, the Prime Minister of Quebec, faces a well-organized civil disobedience movement among both the English-speaking population of the province and the Inuit people of the Ungava Bay region.

In both cases, the resistance to the law comes after months of ferocious opposition to a Bill that made French the official language of Quebec. From now on, all the children educated in the Quebec must attend French classes as a rule, the English school system remaining available only for English-speaking pupils whose parents have been educated in English in Quebec.

This tough rule is being openly by-passed by many school boards that continue to allow their children to choose to have them educated in English, no matter if the law allows or not.

As far as the Inuit people are concerned, resistance takes another form. The leaders of this tiny population plainly reject any form of French penetration in the northern part of the province and insist that the Quebec government remove all its officials from their area. They even invited the federal government to provide the services they used to get from the Quebec government.

Up to now, the Lévesque Government has reacted calmly to these public challenges to its legal authority. The Prime Minister has agreed to meet the Inuit leaders as soon as they stop their policy of permanent harassment of the provincial civil servants working in Fort-Charles.

But the Minister of Education, Mr Jacques-Yvan Morin, has said he will deprive the school boards that defy the law of the grants they need to fulfill their task and will refuse those children the diplomas usually delivered by the department of education. These moves are seen as a clear declaration of war by English-speaking groups who placed advertisements in the Montreal newspapers claiming, "We will not discriminate" and inviting parents to send their children to the school of their choice. These difficulties have arisen

A comprehensive guide to the correct use of English!



capitals. Every name or heading is followed by a full stop. But far more serious than such comparatively trivial failings are verbal infelicities and examples of jargon and fashionable "gobbledygook" are so frequent and intrusive as to cause alarm about the sort of standard in English the school will set and expect.

Defects in simple syntax as well as in style abound. Here are some examples: "Must make decisions which do the best for all"; "vacancies on the Staffing Structure"; "matters concerning the welfare"; "to help and prepare them for all aspects"; "meaningful small units"; "pupils of good ability in language"; "will work with children of different abilities to themselves"; "where this is believed to help the learning situation"; "children who have the aptitude for examination requirements"; and "adjacent the Primary School".

In the section on "Mathematics" appear: "All children might perhaps expect without their ability in mastering mathematical skills"; and "The content gives a wide coverage of the many facets of the subject". Under "Integrated Studies" we find: "On many occasions there is an overlap of the subjects of language, literature and the media." A little later: "It is sometimes thought that once the basic skills of reading and writing are mastered, there is little else to worry about in English." It is wickered to wonder whether this thought is not rather firmly fixed in the minds of those who compiled this handbook? "However," we learn, "it is impossible to separate the language from the purpose of communication" which would seem to be a blinding glimpse of the obvious even to

The section on "Art" tells us that "The fourth and fifth years in the school sees the fruition of experiences gained in year 1-3. The section headed 'Special Needs and Diagnostic Services' refers to the 'objective tests' carried out on the children in their primary schools and says that they can be supplemented by us at a later stage and if we have doubts about the pupil's performance as compared with potential ability, the problem will be investigated, if the pupil is not achieving a place of unintended honour comes in the information that 'the Education Welfare Officer is also responsible for any transport problems which may occur'.

One turns eagerly to see if the section about the place of English in the curriculum is free from the general failings. But one's anxieties are confirmed rather than dispelled. First, there is no section about English, instead, there is a section headed "Communication" with the explanation: "The Communication Department combines what are traditionally termed the Departments of English and Foreign Languages. This arrangement reflects the common concern with language, literature and the media." A little later: "It is sometimes thought that once the basic skills of reading and writing are mastered, there is little else to worry about in English." It is wickered to wonder whether this thought is not rather firmly fixed in the minds of those who compiled this handbook? "However," we learn, "it is impossible to separate the language from the purpose of communication" which would seem to be a blinding glimpse of the obvious even to

the most ignorant parents, supposing that is, that they knew what the words meant. The only foreign language included in the syllabus is French, with German as a possible later addition. Latin is not even a hoped-for option.

This section ends with the information that "One of the tasks of the Communications Department is to lead the radical reappraisal of the use of language across the curriculum advocated by the Bullock Report (1974). In the light of the language of the handbook, the school's qualifications to undertake this task are perhaps hardly self-evident.

One reads this handbook more in sorrow than in anger. It seems to be written by members of a serious and dedicated staff. The school, in an ideal situation, has admirable premises and resources, and will cater in the main for the children of intelligent, middle-class parents. But can it—and the many other schools that must be like it—be an adequate replacement of the grammar schools, as they aspire to be, when the language and thought of intelligent, middle-class parents have been quoted? Can it produce our future doctors, engineers, teachers, scientists, lawyers, journalists or clear-thinking members of any profession when the language and thought of at least some of its teachers is so woefully and inaccurately? The public assurance of the National Union of Teachers that teachers and the institutions which train them have nothing to fear from "Great Debate" on education rings hollow indeed.

H. Justin Evans

English under attack from the French Canadians in Quebec

Only weeks after the Prime Minister agreed to soften certain provisions in the Bill that made French the official language of Quebec, the Prime Minister of Quebec, faces a well-organized civil disobedience movement among both the English-speaking population of the province and the Inuit people of the Ungava Bay region.

In both cases, the resistance to the law comes after months of ferocious opposition to a Bill that made French the official language of Quebec. From now on, all the children educated in the Quebec must attend French classes as a rule, the English school system remaining available only for English-speaking pupils whose parents have been educated in English in Quebec.

This tough rule is being openly by-passed by many school boards that continue to allow their children to choose to have them educated in English, no matter if the law allows or not.

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Up to now, the Lévesque Government has reacted calmly to these public challenges to its legal authority. The Prime Minister has agreed to meet the Inuit leaders as soon as they stop their policy of permanent harassment of the provincial civil servants working in Fort-Charles.

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This procedure gives the government a clear advantage against its opponents who will have to join their forces even if they do not share the same political platform on the specific issue of federalism against independence.

One can think that a government so deeply opposed on so many crucial issues cannot survive for long and will soon be replaced by a more traditional team whose mandate will be to restore harmony in the English community and rebuild confidence within the business groups. This is not the case if the government is able to face so many opponents at the same time, it is mainly because it still enjoys wide support among the French-speaking population.

No significant opposition has been noted, outside the editorial pages of the newspapers, in the French community against the removal of the freedom of choice in the language of education, even if French Quebecers lost that freedom with the passage of the Bill.

The federal government once attempted to make life harder economically for the new government but had to reverse its policy. And the federal forces were in a state of disarray, not only in Quebec but in Ottawa, where no political party seems able to come up with new solutions to the old Quebec grievances.

To calm down nervous opinion in English Canada the Trudeau government set up four special groups to study the constitutional mess and to find ways to strengthen Canadian unity while giving Quebecers some comfort. This cost the public treasury \$5m.

Even with the Lévesque government facing economic difficulties, civil disobedience and even civil disorders if the leaders of the English community push further ahead with their opposition to the new masters of Quebec, the supporters of the Parti Québécois still have reasons to rejoice.

The labour unrest that almost paralysed the previous government is not a problem any longer. Neither is the exodus of foreign or domestic capital so widely predicted after the victory of the PQ. Finding jobs is still a very difficult task,

but the federal administration is as much to blame as the new Quebec government for the closing of many manufacturing units which have been directly connected with the dumping of foreign products in the Canadian market or the lack of foreign markets for Quebec-made goods. The federal government's being responsible for foreign trade, this situation helps Lévesque to build his case against federalism.

The obvious goal of the government is to make the federal administration the first protector of the rights and privileges of English Canadians in this country, while the French have no choice but to regroup behind the Quebec government. In attacking both the language legislation and the White Paper on the referendum, Ottawa, as well as the English community, pressure groups confirm the French Canadians in their suspicions that Ottawa acts much more quickly when the English-speaking community experiences difficulties than is the case when the French are in trouble.

For all these reasons, Mr Lévesque still enjoys the confidence of a large segment of the population of Quebec. The premier lost his gamble to convince English Quebecers that they must adjust to a new way of life in Quebec, but he did not lose the whole battle. In fact, he gained the endorsement of his linguistic and constitutional policy by his fellow French Canadians, who never opposed significantly any of the audacious moves of his government.

A petition signed by about 300 well-known French Quebecers against the Bill was circulated during the summer, but this influential group limited its public involvement in the linguistic debate to that symbolic gesture. Now that civil disobedience is on its way in Montreal, it is doubtful that such a petition can be circulated again.

The province is badly split in two parts. This complicates a little more the task of a federal government that must regain the support of Quebecers if it wants to preserve Canadian unity.

Marcel Pepin

Results at Bath

Yesterday

1. 4-20-10 Harry Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 2. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 3. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 4. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 5. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 6. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 7. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 8. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 9. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 10. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1.

By Our Racing Correspondent

3.15 Persian Pearl. 3.45 Loyal Deed. 3.15 Vicenzo. 3.45 Fine Blue. 4.15 Hit the Roof. 4.45 Hit the Roof.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

3.15 Persian Pearl. 3.45 Loyal Deed. 3.15 Vicenzo. 3.45 Fine Blue. 4.15 Hit the Roof. 4.45 Hit the Roof.

3.45 SEPTEMBER STAKES (3-y-o: £607: 11m)

1. 4-20-10 Harry Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 2. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 3. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 4. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 5. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 6. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 7. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 8. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 9. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 10. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1.

By Our Racing Correspondent

3.15 Persian Pearl. 3.45 Loyal Deed. 3.15 Vicenzo. 3.45 Fine Blue. 4.15 Hit the Roof. 4.45 Hit the Roof.

Leicester

Yesterday

1. 4-20-10 Harry Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 2. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 3. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 4. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 5. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 6. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 7. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 8. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 9. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1. 10. 1-10-10 William Hedges (C-2), B. Jarvis, 5-6-1.

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Thurs., Sept. 22-23 a.m.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 000992 of 1977

In the High Court of Justice

Chancery Division

Between

THE LONDON & NORTH-OKEHAMPTON

TRADING COMPANY LIMITED

Plaintiff

And

THE LONDON & NORTH-OKEHAMPTON

TRADING COMPANY LIMITED

Defendant

Notice is hereby given that the

above-named Plaintiff has applied to

the Court for an order for the

defendant to pay to the plaintiff

the sum of £10,000 (Ten thousand

pounds) with interest thereon at

the rate of 10 per cent per annum

from the date of the order until

paid. The plaintiff claims that the

defendant is liable to pay the

sum claimed on account of the

defendant's breach of contract with

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(Source: Department of Industry.)

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He should have known better than to die of a cold in the head, or something

The death in captivity in South Africa of John Cheekyaffir, leader of the movement among black South Africans to persuade the government to admit that they mostly have only two legs each, has given rise to a considerable amount of disquiet, controversy, criticism and kicking demonstrators in the head. It will be recalled that Cheekyaffir, who was 22-years-old at the time of his death, was said by the Minister of Justice, Mr Sjabobk-Goring, to have died of old age. Asked at a press conference how a man of 22 could die of old age, he said that he was himself a qualified doctor, and had examined the body shortly before the murder, and it was quite clear to him that old age was the cause. "All the signs of old age were present," he said; "a broken nose, torn ears, book-marks on his ribs, the lot. Anyway, the inquest decided that it was old age, which settles it." At this, several reporters pointed out that the inquest had not yet been held, and the Minister explained that that had nothing to do with it: "If we are going to wait for an inquest to be held before we announce its findings," he said, "our admirable and overworked police force would never have time to murder anybody at all."

Next day, 417 leading doctors signed a statement saying that it was quite impossible for a man of 22 to die of old age, and the Minister was asked to comment. "I never said he had died of old age," snapped Mr Sjabobk-Goring. "I said quite clearly that it was a severe cold in the head." A journalist (actually, it was that horrible man Donald Woods who has in the past gone so far as to suggest that it is somehow improper for South African police to throw suspects out of high windows) then reminded the Minister that he had claimed to have examined

Cheekyaffir himself. "Ah yes," said the Minister, "but it appears there was some confusion. The body I examined was that of another man altogether—an easy mistake to make, after all, considering that the buggers all look the same anyway. Besides, don't forget I'm not a doctor—I'm only the Minister of Justice. I don't know anything about medicine—or justice, either, come to think of it." Woods (for it was indeed he) then pointed out that the Minister, on the previous day, had said that he was a qualified physician, whereupon the Minister smiled wearily and explained that he had been trained as a doctor, but was subsequently struck off the register.

Next day, 8,124 doctors signed a statement saying that it was impossible for a man in Cheekyaffir's excellent state of fitness to die of a cold: at the same time, both the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury expressed anxiety at the circumstances of Cheekyaffir's death. Once more, the Minister was asked to comment, and explained that when he had said that the cause of death was a cold, he had had no direct responsibility himself, but had been relying on the report submitted to him by the governor of the prison, Mr Thug-Deadman. When Mr Thug-Deadman was asked about this, he replied that he had had no direct responsibility himself, but had been relying on the report submitted to him by General Jack Boots, head of the General's security services. When the General was asked about this, he replied that he had had no direct responsibility himself, but had been relying on the report submitted to him

by the Prime Minister, Mr van der Scoundrel. When the Prime Minister was asked about this, he replied that he had had no direct responsibility himself, but had been relying on the report submitted to him by the Minister of Justice, Mr Sjabobk-Goring.)

The Minister was then asked to comment on the Pope's statement. "The Pope is a Communist," he replied; "I thought everybody knew that." "But what about Archbishop Cogan?" he was asked; "is he a Communist too?" The Minister, curled his lip: "Cogan?" he said; "don't you know his real name is Cohen?" This, as may well be supposed, entirely disposed of the matter as far as all decent and reasonable people were concerned, but it was not enough for the loathsome Woods, who asked the Minister whether an independent judicial enquiry would be set up to examine all the circumstances of Cheekyaffir's death. The Minister first suggested to Mr Woods that he would do well to have himself examined by his own doctor for signs of a serious cold in the head, as old age. "Something tells me," he went on, "that you are in great danger of dying of one or the other quite soon. I mean, it is well known that people with colds often fall under motorcars, and the number of old people who put their heads in gas-ovens without leaving a note—or indeed anything but signs of a struggle—is shockingly large." He then went on to take the wind out of the sails of the repulsive Woods by saying that the Prime Minister was "The Minister of Justice to the people," and that the enquiry be set up; it actually had been. "And what is more," he continued triumphantly, "it has already happened."

The Minister informed the journalists that the members of the inquiry had been the Prime Minister, Mr van der Scoundrel, the head of South Africa's security services (General Jack Boots),

the police chief of the district in which the prison was situated (Colonel Proudly-Swastika), the Governor of the prison (Mr Thug-Deadman), and himself. "And in addition," he added, "the inquiry had two ex-officio members, namely the policeman who actually murdered Cheekyaffir, and were therefore in a much better position to know what happened than any journalist."

Asked to say how long the inquiry had taken, and what its findings had been, the Minister said that it had been set up immediately before Cheekyaffir had been arrested, and had reported the same afternoon—fully six days before he had died. "I venture to say," he added, "that few countries could equal that record of swiftness and efficiency. As for its findings, the inquiry concluded unanimously that Cheekyaffir died of measles—just as I told you."

The Minister then went on to reveal that, at the time of Cheekyaffir's death, a number of charges against him were being prepared, on which he would shortly have been prosecuted. These charges included: damage to public property; several police transactions rendered almost useless by Cheekyaffir repeatedly striking them with his kidneys; unauthorized use of electricity, viz. the substantial amounts consumed through Cheekyaffir's genitals during police questioning; and failing to report an accident, viz. falling down three flights of iron stairs at police headquarters.

Stop Press: The condition of Donald Woods was today said by the Minister of Justice to be critical. Asked to comment, Mr Woods said he'd never felt better in his life. Asked to comment on Mr Woods's statement, the Minister said that he had been misreported. Mr Woods's condition was not yet critical, but was due to become so towards the end of the week.

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Now 'wetbacks' do not need to swim to America

The Rio Grande, which separates the United States from Mexico for most of its length, has been oversold in the old Wild West. It may have changed since then, but it is not now-days an impressive river. In particular, it constitutes the puniest of barriers for the hundreds of thousands of Mexicans who seek to cross the border illegally.

They can be seen at any hour of the day or night, wading through the muddy water near El Paso, on the western tip of Texas. It is seldom more than waist high, and between 30 and 50 yards across. The name "wetbacks" was applied to illegal Mexican immigrants because many of them would swim across the Rio Grande. Today, along this stretch of the river, they need not wet their backs wet; just their thighs.

El Paso and Chula Vista, on the coast of California, are the two main crossing points for the several million Mexicans who are in the United States illegally. Last month the border patrol arrested 16,135 illegal aliens in the El Paso region. This was a record total, beating the previous best of 15,258 set in the previous month. Arrests at Chula Vista are higher—about 40,000 a month—and increasing.

Nobody can say for sure how many are not arrested, but the best guess is that only one in four is caught. This would mean that, in these two sectors, more than 200,000 Mexicans make their way into the United States every month. There they try to find jobs, often undercutting local labour, and will in many cases acquire skillfully forged

documents to establish themselves as legitimate residents.

The steady increase in numbers could be partly the result of a "promise" of qualified amnesty for long-established illegal aliens which President Carter plans to introduce: but when the border patrol question them very few mention that as their reason for coming. Nearly all say that they are driven to it by the need to find work.

In Mexico, unemployment is estimated at about 40 per cent. America is rich and irresistible. The border patrol has 125 officers in the El Paso district, patrolling the river and the hilly desert area to the west. The patrol was established in 1924 and, for the first years of its existence, was concerned mainly with stopping boot-leggers bringing in liquor. Today the contraband is people.

One evening last week I went on patrol with Dale Cozart, a senior patrol agent who has been with the force for 12 years. We climbed into an unmarked car and made for the levee road, built on an earth flood barrier running alongside the Rio Grande, south-east of El Paso. As soon as we drove up to the road we spotted our first illegal aliens.

It was something of an idyllic scene. Two young men in bright shirts were sitting in the grass on the American bank of the river, under a tall tree to shade them from the late afternoon sun. They could have been fishing or just chatting, but as we moved closer we could see that they were waiting for four other young people who were wading across from Mexico.

Mr Cozart spoke to them and told them to go back. They

Last month the border patrol arrested 16,135 illegal aliens in the El Paso region. It was a record

struggled, picked up their shoes, rolled up their trousers and climbed into the water. There was no arrest, so they would not be part of the statistics.

"They'll come back," Mr Cozart said. "They'll wait on the other side until they see an opportunity and they'll cross again. The chances are they'll get across next time because we don't have the manpower. They have time and patience on their side."

Further on we spotted a lone, middle-aged man in ragged shorts which were wet at the edges. He spotted us, too. With a smile, he stepped back into the water and made for the Mexican side. "He probably works in a bar or a filling station," Mr Cozart said. "Probably comes over most evenings. Tonight he'll be late for work."

Three children, aged between 10 and 12, were the next Mexicans Mr Cozart turned back. Many of them are raised on the streets," he explained. "They come over here and rob businesses or break into cars." Then we saw a man climbing on to the bank carrying a bicycle. He grimaced at us and went back across with his bike.

The first arrests I witnessed came when we were passing under the Bridge of the Americas, one of the three road bridges connecting El Paso with

Juarez, on the Mexican side. Some young men and women had jumped from the bridge, through a gap in its wire fence. We saw them scrambling over a stone wall into a park which ran beside the road below. Mr Cozart called another patrol car on the radio and stayed on the levee road, watching and directing, while the other car made for the entrance to the park.

Three people were arrested there. Another car arrested two from the same group who had made off in a different direction. We saw three others waving back across the bridge to Mexico, deciding not to chance it—for the moment.

Those held were taken to headquarters for examination. Most would be offered the chance of returning voluntarily, without formal deportation proceedings, and most would take it. If they had a record of repeated entries, or had been caught committing a crime, they would be kept in custody for a deportation hearing.

As we drove on, we saw scores of people on the opposite bank sitting patiently, waiting for the chance to cross, most likely after dark. Then we reached the Black Bridge, a railway bridge which is a favourite crossing point for people who do not like to get their feet wet. It is popular because it reaches El Paso only a few hundred yards from the

spot where buses depart to take workers to farms up the valley.

Later we assed a large railway yard, and saw a bank still more clumps of people. "They're waiting to catch the freight train to Santa Fe," said Mr Cozart. "It's going out tonight about midnight. They'll come across and hide on the tracks, then when inspecting it and taking them off before it leaves. Sometimes we take 60 or 70 off it."

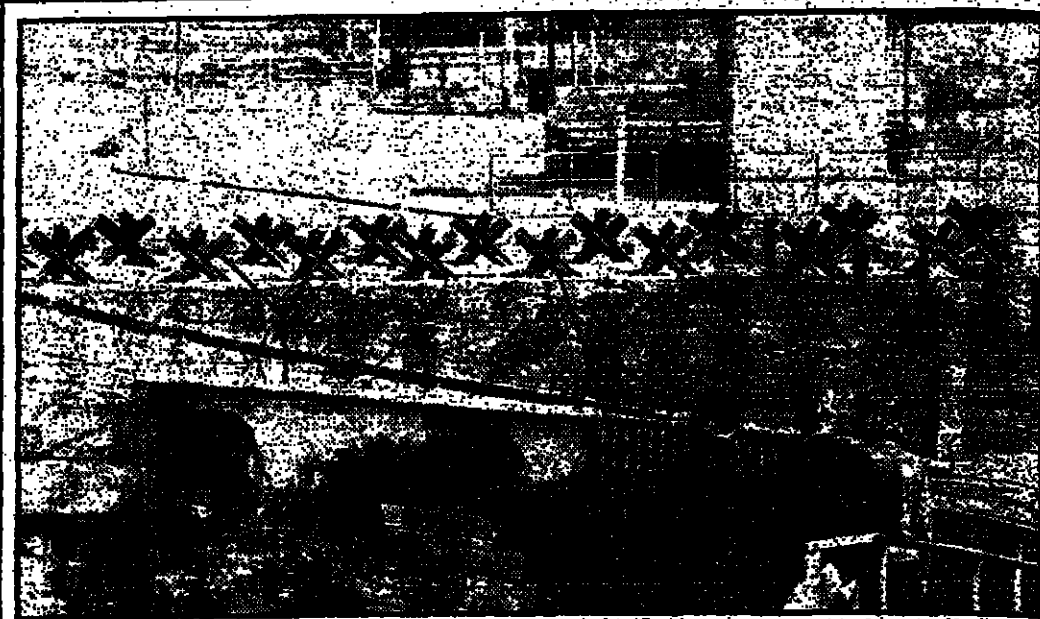
Just outside El Paso the Rio Grande stops being the border, which shoots off due west across the foothills of the Franklin Mountains. Here the patrol uses different techniques against Mexicans who cross the unfenced border on foot to make for the farms, sometimes walking through the night distances of 25 miles and more, to get work.

The patrolmen have vehicles like Land-Rovers to drive over the sandy hills, through the scrub. They are alerted to border crossings by sensor devices, and in the daytime they use the traditional desert techniques of following footprints in the sand.

Two patrolmen were waiting for the sun to go down behind the hills when the intrusion would begin. "We had about 24 last night," one told me. "We'll get about the same tonight. And we'll lose more than we arrest in the dark." It is a frustrating job, being chased and running a law which, with the number of patrolmen available, is only partially enforceable. It is easy to imagine that it could be demoralizing, but the men stick to it, doing the best they can. But what of the illegal aliens themselves? For them, forced through desperation to seek a living by paddling back and forth across a river and hoping they will not be caught, it is not much of a life.

To be continued

Michael Leppman



East Germany is a puzzling place. It is Europe's newest state, but is it real? Will it last? It emerged almost by accident when the wartime alliance broke up. For a long time the West was not even recognized as a state, let alone a country. The Russians went on toying with the idea of a united neutralized Germany. But it is now a fully recognized member of the United Nations with the highest living standards in eastern Europe and a higher per capita income than Britain, according to the World Bank.

In one sense it has clearly survived. But its leaders do not seem to have earned the love and respect to which their achievement should entitle them. They continue to improve the wall, mine strips and automatic firing devices which separate their western frontier against emigration. Some of their people are still willing to pay huge sums of money and risk their lives to escape. The majority make their spiritual escape nightly by tuning in to West German television. A large number of restless writers and singers have recently been pushed out to the West. Merit critics are put in prison or under house arrest. Something seems to be wrong somewhere.

Two new books offer two very different pictures. One is by a sympathetic outsider, Jonathan Steele, formerly correspondent for *The Guardian* in eastern Europe and now in Washington. The other is by a critical insider, Rudolf Bahro, formerly an incompetent apparition and now in prison. Mr Steele is the intellectual spectator fascinated by a political experiment. Herr Bahro is down among the specimens.

According to Mr Steele, East Germany is a wild, vibrant, fully functioning German state whose main problems are simply that its rulers have not yet got over their habitual distrust of the people, that "its politics still have a cramped, claustrophobic feel," that it lacks "sparkle." Otherwise it is an interesting and authentic experiment in European communism, "one of the few test-beds that we have," and an intellectual warning that "the beginning of a new world can come." According to Herr Bahro it is limping along in a state of smouldering crisis caused largely by the imposition of the Soviet system on a west European culture.

Let us start with Mr Steele. He is right to be fascinated and to give a fuller picture than is often conveyed to the British public. East Germany is not just a concentration camp surrounded by barbed wire. Its citizens live a fairly comfortable life for the bottom of the rather low scale of standards to which this globe is accustomed. People are not physically tortured. There is no grinding poverty or ostentatious wealth. Social security is in place and camping, sports and recreation are available. The system, if you want to live a quiet life with your mind switched off, it is more relaxing than West Germany. If you want to dedicate your life to building socialism you will find more efficient and dedicated comrades than elsewhere in eastern Europe. If

East Germany: view from both sides of the Wall

you are good at games you can be highly favoured. Human relations are in some ways warmer and closer than in West Germany, though whether this is the result of compulsory levelling and the collective life or of solidarity under pressure is not certain.

Mr Steele is also right that it is more than a carbon copy of the Soviet Union. Germany had a strong communist party before the war, and although the party in 1954 made way fairly inconspicuously for the ladder as party workers, trade unionist and deputy director of *Forum* (a periodical for the intelligentsia) before being shunted into factory organization. Much use was made of the party in the early years of the G.D.R., but it started five years later to write a Marxist critique of the system which has now appeared in East Germany, together with interviews to press and television. Hence *Forum*.

Herr Bahro writes as a convinced communist who is disillusioned by the way the system has turned out. "We are simply continuing the old system," he writes. "The alienation and subordination of the working masses continue to be a fact of life." He writes of the "catastrophic ideological bankruptcy of the system" and says that the "smouldering crisis of our system is not caused by technical or economic factors but by the deep-seated contradictions in the substance of production relations."

The means of production, he says, have not been transferred from private ownership to the people. Instead, "the whole of society stands passively before the state machine." The monopolistic control over the means of production has produced a bureaucratic mechanism which tends to destroy or privatize all subjective initiative. The omnipotent political organization of the new society, which penetrates deep into economic activities, blunts its social driving force.

In a way, perhaps the extreme of Herr Bahro's argument is that the system can produce its own destruction from within. He writes of the "catastrophic ideological bankruptcy of the system" and says that the "smouldering crisis of our system is not caused by technical or economic factors but by the deep-seated contradictions in the substance of production relations."

Mr Steele, or as he seems to feel, it may be blind to its own popularity, but Mr Steele gives the impression that he has never set down among ordinary East German workers in mines and camps, and that he has never been in the system. If you want to live a quiet life with your mind switched off, it is more relaxing than West Germany. If you want to dedicate your life to building socialism you will find more efficient and dedicated comrades than elsewhere in eastern Europe. If

guard dogs by a former manager in 1962. The idea originated, of course, with the story of the keese on the Capitol in Rome, raising the alarm against the Gauls' nocturnal attack in 390 BC. The birds have proved equally effective in present day Scotland.

As sensitive as more conventional burglar alarms, the geese are considerably cheaper to service. In summer they double as lawnmowers, living off the grass around the 40 acre warehouse site. In winter they eat a little of the disillery's ready supply of grain.

Their population is controlled, and eggs are sold locally to raise money for the Erskine Hospital for disabled servicemen.

Just the right gesture

How do you commemorate your favourite local lad if he was none other than Donald McGill, the designer of saucy postcards and seaside bawd extraordinary? You erect a blue plaque where he lived, don't you. And that is what the GLC did yesterday at Senect Park, Blackheath.

The suggestion for the plaque came from the owners of the house in the London suburb where the artist once resided. McGill's creative span covered half a century and he was still drawing those deliciously vulgar cards just before his death in 1962.

Sadly, his popular representations of large ladies and small

The question is, what the system is going to face the tests of viability. For the moment, if the whole of Germany is regarded as a teething of two systems the West German system remains a very real, and the two is now facing. East Germany has its problems with culture and would-be intelligentsia. It is now running into the type of economic stress familiar to most industrial countries, faced by higher raw material prices and a heavy commitment to social security and subsidised prices.

Whether Herr Bahro is the answer is doubtful, but he is a fascinating figure. He is not a frustrated intellectual, but a man who would be emigrant who cannot get a visa. Until he was whisked off to prison on August 23, he had a good sense of the system. He had a factory in Berlin, where he could see the system actually turning. He is also very much a product of the system. He was born in 1925, and made the party in 1954 and made way fairly inconspicuously for the ladder as party workers, trade unionist and deputy director of *Forum* (a periodical for the intelligentsia) before being shunted into factory organization. Much use was made of the party in the early years of the G.D.R., but it started five years later to write a Marxist critique of the system which has now appeared in East Germany, together with interviews to press and television. Hence *Forum*.

Herr Bahro writes as a convinced communist who is disillusioned by the way the system has turned out. "We are simply continuing the old system," he writes. "The alienation and subordination of the working masses continue to be a fact of life." He writes of the "catastrophic ideological bankruptcy of the system" and says that the "smouldering crisis of our system is not caused by technical or economic factors but by the deep-seated contradictions in the substance of production relations."

The means of production, he says, have not been transferred from private ownership to the people. Instead, "the whole of society stands passively before the state machine." The monopolistic control over the means of production has produced a bureaucratic mechanism which tends to destroy or privatize all subjective initiative. The omnipotent political organization of the new society, which penetrates deep into economic activities, blunts its social driving force.

In a way, perhaps the extreme of Herr Bahro's argument is that the system can produce its own destruction from within. He writes of the "catastrophic ideological bankruptcy of the system" and says that the "smouldering crisis of our system is not caused by technical or economic factors but by the deep-seated contradictions in the substance of production relations."

Mr Steele, or as he seems to feel, it may be blind to its own popularity, but Mr Steele gives the impression that he has never set down among ordinary East German workers in mines and camps, and that he has never been in the system. If you want to live a quiet life with your mind switched off, it is more relaxing than West Germany. If you want to dedicate your life to building socialism you will find more efficient and dedicated comrades than elsewhere in eastern Europe. If

guard dogs by a former manager in 1962. The idea originated, of course, with the story of the keese on the Capitol in Rome, raising the alarm against the Gauls' nocturnal attack in 390 BC. The birds have proved equally effective in present day Scotland.

As sensitive as more conventional burglar alarms, the geese are considerably cheaper to service. In summer they double as lawnmowers, living off the grass around the 40 acre warehouse site. In winter they eat a little of the disillery's ready supply of grain.

Their population is controlled, and eggs are sold locally to raise money for the Erskine Hospital for disabled servicemen.

Just the right gesture

How do you commemorate your favourite local lad if he was none other than Donald McGill, the designer of saucy postcards and seaside bawd extraordinary? You erect a blue plaque where he lived, don't you. And that is what the GLC did yesterday at Senect Park, Blackheath.

The suggestion for the plaque came from the owners of the house in the London suburb where the artist once resided. McGill's creative span covered half a century and he was still drawing those deliciously vulgar cards just before his death in 1962.

Sadly, his popular representations of large ladies and small

"Would you buy a Rembrandt for its canvas?" I asked.

An acquaintance remarked that, at £1,250 the Royal Oak stainless steel watch by Audemars Piguet was more expensive than most gold watches.

Which was perhaps missing the point. The value of the Royal Oak is more a

consequence of the way the metal has been used, the design reflecting its strength and character, than the material itself.

In any sphere of artistry and craftsmanship, as I pointed out to my friend, materials alone do not make a masterpiece.

What matters is the way they're used.

And who uses them.



Audemars Piguet

Illustrated brochure and a list of appointed jewellers is available from Audemars Piguet, 70 Pall Mall, London EC1N 8RS.

First step onto dangerous path of precedent

No resignations seem imminent over Mrs Thatcher's surprise announcement that the Government will use the referendum as a means of getting the public's view on a union's threat to hold the nation to ransom.

It could, however, still produce some mild ructions on the Tory side reminiscent of the upheaval in the Labour Shadow Cabinet in 1972 when, by a majority, it decided on a referendum as the way out of Labour's dilemma on the question of continued membership of the Common Market.

Roy Jenkins, deputy leader of the party, George Thomson (now Lord Thomson of Monifieth), and Harold Lever, resigned from the Shadow Cabinet because they could not accept the idea that a pusillanimous Administration should have to refer issues to the electorate which were properly the business of an elected Government to decide.

Some Conservative MPs yesterday said they thought the cartoon scenario which preceded the interview with Mrs Thatcher on *Weekend World* was scurrilous and designed to put the Conservative leader "on the spot" about a confrontation with the unions.

What is needed now, of course, if the referendum is to be quickly called, is for some enterprising backbencher to bring in a Referendum Bill for the next session of Parliament.

Once an enabling Bill has been passed, the questions for particular referendums could be promulgated by Statutory Instrument, approved by both Houses of Parliament.

The Park Bakeries (Weybridge) Ltd proudly print on their paper bags *Draftsmen Baked in Our Own Bakeries*. So there is a bread shortage, but that is ridiculous...

Why blame the shotgun?

As I do not cultivate an allotment and in view of the fact that I buy velvet jackets neither at Marks and Sparks nor C & A, you have been spared, I am sure, of the subject of interest to you. Now my obsession (and we will leave Madame out of this if you please) is shooting, primarily with a shotgun.

Regular readers start here. You may know, but it is much more likely that you do not, that it is the Government's intention to introduce tighter controls over the issue and renewal of the licence for shotguns, by the police, of shotgun certificates. Time, of course, will have to be found in the legislative programme to introduce a Bill.

It is already evident, however, that the arguments set out in the highly unsatisfactory Green Paper of 1973 will form the basis for the Government's proposals. The proposals are based on the argument that the proportion of gun violence rises and falls with private gun

ownership. Legitimate gun ownership must therefore be drastically restricted, it is suggested.

Shooting people, clay shots, rough shooters and game shots, the very people who seek close cooperation with the police, therefore face the serious infringement of their chosen leisure pursuit.

Those of you who are members of WAGBI will recall that the Association's petition to the 1973 Green Paper and won, with other bodies, some respite for the shooting community. In conjunction with the British Shooting Sports Council (formerly the Long Room Committee), WAGBI is to lead the fight against the new proposals.

Of course, until a Bill is published in its final form, it is possible only to surmise about the details of the new legislation. However, it is clear from the Home Office letter of this June that the Government believes (falsely) that by introducing stringent restrictions on shotgun ownership (by bringing the shotgun rules into line with Part V Firearms regulations) armed crime would be reduced.

If you are not a member of WAGBI, do please join. Whether or not you shoot, write to your MP demanding to know what he is doing about this crucial encroachment into the freedom of the individual.

Being the proud possessor of an epigrammatic name (PHS) I was naturally delighted to note that the chairman of the GLC Covent Garden committee is called Alan Greengross.

THE TIMES DIARY/PHS

Jonathan wants to leave the rat race and go into the city.



Inscrutable Scotch guard

There are 100 Chinese guards at work in Scotland protecting 30 million gallons of Scotch whisky worth (including duty) about £200m. The Chinese are readily distinguished, not by their yellow complexion or narrow eyes, but by the fact that they waddle and hock. They are geese.

Dumbarton, round the rows of warehouses belonging to George Ballantine and Sons. They are descendants of five geese and one gander originally purchased in preference to

guard dogs by a former manager in 1962.

The idea originated, of course, with the story of the keese on the Capitol in Rome, raising the alarm against the Gauls' nocturnal attack in 390 BC. The birds have proved equally effective in present day Scotland.

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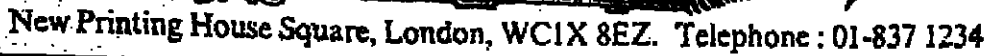
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The division in the Episcopal Church in the United States is an indication of just how strongly feelings run over the ordination of women. There it was led to an absolute split, with the breakaway section apparently negotiating to join the Roman Catholic Church. For the Church of England as well it is a delicate issue both because of conflicting opinions within the church itself and because of pressures from other churches in the Anglican Communion which are likely to make next year's Lambeth Conference a difficult occasion.

The internal differences within the Church of England over this question are evident from the tortuous procedure adopted to deal with it. The General Synod decided two years ago that there were no fundamental objections to the ordination of women, but it was unable to take the next step. No further steps were taken to have women priests. All the bishops were asked to bring forward proposals to admit women to the priesthood when they judged the time was right. Earlier this year the House of Bishops decided that this should be done next year, after the Lambeth Conference. This does not mean that the Bishops are united in favour of ordaining women: rather that they believe it will be appropriate for the Church to consider the matter again in the light of Lambeth.

One of the dominant issues at that conference will be whether it should formally endorse the ordination of women. The pressure will be strong. It is not only the Episcopal Church in the United States which has taken this step. The policy has been adopted in principle and in some cases in practice as well by the Anglican churches of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Hongkong. Others may follow and the argument will no doubt be put forcefully that the unity of the Anglican Communion requires such a change and that the position of the Church of England at the centre of the Communion will require it to keep in step with the majority.

Against that can be set ecumenical considerations. It would be very hard to develop closer relations with either the Orthodox or the Roman Catholic churches if women were to become priests in the Church of England. There is even to be a special joint meeting of Anglican and Orthodox theologians before the Lambeth Conference in the hope of dissuading it from endorsing the ordination of women. On the other hand, relations with the Eastern Churches would be improved by such a move: so it is hard to see that the ecumenical arguments can be decisive in either direction. The critical question is what would be most appropriate for the Church of England itself.

The conflicting views on this

matter derive partly from very different concepts of the priesthood. The Church of England is by its nature both Catholic and Protestant. There are those on the Catholic wing of the church who believe that there are reasons deeply embedded in human psychology why the priestly function can only be performed by a man; there are others who see the role as essentially a special form of leadership and who believe that it is keeping with our society today that women can be leaders as well as men. There is also a substantial body of opinion within the church which may have no very strong convictions on this question itself but which would not be happy to override the convictions of others. That broad tolerance is one of the deepest and most valuable traditions within the Church of England. In one sense, it might be applied on both sides of this debate because, whatever may be decided, there will be those whose cherished principles are bound to suffer and who will be rejected. But a church with this instinct of respect for the convictions of others should never be prepared to press change beyond the strong and sincere opposition of a substantial minority. The onus must be on those who want women priests to show that there will be acceptance of them among the church at large, and there is no reason to believe that that condition can yet be met.

last week's one-day general strike in Colombia, which led to at least fifteen deaths, injuries to more than 100 people, and thousands of arrests, was a reminder that violence is very much part of the scene there. Colombia is a country which prides itself on its democratic system, one of the few left in Latin America, but violence has never been far below the surface, and on this occasion both sides, the government and the unions, appeared to be determined to have a confrontation. The unions were fired by the very real discontent over rising prices and wage controls. President Lopez Michelsen went on television to denounce the strike as illegal and subversive, and called in the army to control the situation. The result was pitched battles in Bogotá and other areas between troops and demonstrators.

Now that it is all over, it is probable that the day's events have not been followed by predictions of a military takeover. General Varon, the Defence Minister, has made a point of saying that the armed forces had no intention of carrying out a coup d'etat. But there is no

question that the strike has been a shock to the government. It was the first time for many years that the four main union confederations, which range from conservative to pro-communist, had agreed to take common action of this sort. Now that the strike has taken place there have been admissions by General Aron and other members of the government that there were grounds for complaint, and that something should be done about the workers' grievances.

Whatever it is, it will be done within the context of Colombia's distinctive political system, itself a reflexion of the need to keep the country's internal tensions under control. There are two main parties, conservative and liberal, which have a few doctrinal differences, but have been known to oppose each other ferociously. At the end of the 1940s a civil war broke out between them, and lasted for several years. It only ended conclusively in 1958, when they agreed on a sharing of the spoils of office, by which members of the two parties would alternate in the presidency, and the party which did not have the president would be guaranteed a fair share of the other offices.

This system, known as the National Front, has worked more or less well since then, but is now on the point of breaking down. President Lopez Michelsen is a liberal, but the liberals are showing every intention of contesting next year's election though they have not yet agreed on a candidate. The conservatives, too, are having difficulty in agreeing on a candidate, and Colombian politics are entering a new and unpredictable phase. The country is going through many of the difficulties faced by other Latin American countries. There are several left-wing guerrilla groups, and they regularly claim responsibility for kidnappings and murders. In response, there appears to be an emergence of right-wing "death squads" who take trade union leaders and leftists as their targets. The situation is complicated by the widespread trafficking in drugs—mainly cocaine and marijuana—and the underground groups that this has spawned. Altogether it is a volatile situation, but that is the way things have always been in Colombia, and it has come to be accepted as almost a normal state of affairs.

The last great epidemic of cholera was in 1971 when over 1000 cases were reported in the districts of Africa and Arabian Peninsula. Further outbreaks occurred in 1972 and 1973, but the disease has since remained quiescent until the current reports of several thousand cases in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, the Gilbert Islands in the Pacific, and Saudi Arabia, where it is threatening the millions of pilgrims to Mecca. Asiatic cholera has a deservedly malignant reputation, but it is one of the few diseases that can kill a fit young adult in twenty-four hours of the onset of symptoms; yet the infection is preventable by public health measures while with proper treatment facilities very few of those affected should die of the disease.

babies and old people. However, the fluid lost from the body is replaced with a mixture of chemical salts in water the mortality can be reduced to near zero levels. In severe cases this fluid replacement has to be given by infusion directly into a vein, but if treatment can be started while symptoms are still mild the fluid may be given by mouth. The recent World Health Organization trials of this simple cheap treatment have been extremely successful. Antibiotic treatment is needed.

Cholera can be spread by case to case contact but major epidemics are invariably due to contamination of water supplies by human sewage. The part played by flies, dirty food, and other disease vectors is small, although minor outbreaks such as the one in Naples in 1973 may

ever, while there may be innocent carriers among travellers from countries with the disease, cholera is unlikely to gain a foothold in any country with adequate sanitation and pure water supplies.

During epidemics vaccination gives valuable protection against the disease but its value is limited by the need for the vaccination to be repeated every six months to remain fully effective. Cholera thrives wherever there is overcrowding, poverty and poor sanitation. It was a major health problem in London in the early nineteenth century, with a serious epidemic recently as 1857. The disease was eliminated only when the authorities were persuaded by campaigners such as John Snow of the need for pure water supplies. Many of the rapidly

Cholera is a bacterial infection of the intestines which causes dense watery diarrhoea leading to dehydration and rapid collapse. Without treatment the mortality rate can be as high as 50 per cent in young adults and may approach 90 per cent in

metimes be due to infected
afood. The disease spreads
pidly because most of those
fected—perhaps as many as
eteen out of twenty—remain
ee of symptoms and may un-
tringly carry the infection
th them for several days. How-

growing cities in Asia, Africa and South America are facing today the problems that Europe tackled 100 years ago, and these will have to be solved if cholera is to be relegated—as it should be—to the history books.

Mr. W. W. Walton

Sorely, the principles of the economic theory—and any other economic theory—on this matter—must be applied to the same circumstances and at some precise time, but rather than peddle the "most clearly defined concise theory" the principles must be applied if they ignore time, place, etc. That is why the classical economists "did not pretend to discuss the forces which might at one time or another operate under these principles" and that is the essential difference between classical and social sciences. As to the physical sciences, the circumstances can be "precisely defined" in the social sciences there could be but it would be futile. Mr. Rees-Mogg's implied assumption (article, September 2) that the circumstances of the social sciences can be precisely defined is a cause of wholesale misunderstanding, the peddling of fallacies and the waste of resources. It is for the same reason it is meaningless to say that "Trade unions have little power to affect real wages." Obviously they could not do so, the forces being trades and the masses wages indiscriminate. During the inflation of the 30 years businesses have been able to replace historical costs and as wages replaced sooner than most other things it is not possible that the

...ndes unions who have been
...cused of demanding that
...ceased. The wages have after all
...a benefit for their members?
...temporary benefit? A sectional
...benefit? Who can say?
...sincerely,
WALTON,
Sandhill Oval,
...eds.
September 3.

Soviet doctor's oath

From Mr Michael Ryan

In your editorial (August 27) you rebuked the abuse of psychiatry in the Soviet Union you refer to the fact that Soviet doctors swear to be guided by "communist morality". In fact the oath which is now taken by all graduates of Soviet medical institutions heavily qualifies the ideal service to a patient by its references to the overriding requirements of the state. Thus the doctor vows: "in all my actions to guide myself by the principles of communist morality; to remember always a Soviet doctor's lofty calling and responsibility to the people and the Soviet Government".

MICHAEL RYAN,
Department of Social Administration,
University College of Swansea,
Singleton Park,
Swansea.

August 30.

From Lord Haghon of Sowerby, CH

Sir, Full diplomatic recognition to Britain of the Holy See is not a matter only of relations between different Christian Churches. Your editorial (September 17) quite properly brings it into the wider field of secular and political discussion.

As you point out, there are two possible changes, neither of which necessarily entails the other. One is to raise the British minister at the Vatican from the rank of Ambassador. The other is to give the representative of the Vatican in this country official diplomatic status.

The first you say "is little more than a matter of courtesy, and is arguably long overdue". The second would not make very much sense in different circumstances, in favour doing and in add "Opposition, if any, is likely to come only from the most fanatical and irrational of Protestants and from those Catholics who distrust the propensity of the Vatican to seek understanding and mutual power throughout the world".

Nothing in my experience justifies this scathing description of those who take a different view. Obviously it was not true of the Cabinet which was the first of these two proposals in 1945. Notwithstanding the fact that no reciprocal gesture by the Vatican was sought or desired, objections to raising our minister to the Holy See

It would be wise to let things stay as they are. There is really no case in these days for diplomatic recognition of Britain as (or from) any particular centre of religious authority or spiritual influence, whether Christian or otherwise. More than ever Britain is becoming a multinational and multi-religious country. The special position of the Vatican in diplomatic relationship with this country is being weakened by this significant change.

There is no case for upgrading or strengthening the diplomatic link, however nominal, even on grounds of courtesy.

Opposition cannot be brushed aside in contemptuous terms. For all I know it could be as strong inside the Cabinet today as it was in 1965. To my own objections there would now add another: the need to avoid giving any encouragement to the mounting and persistent pressures upon government and Parliament to heed the organized conscience of the Catholic Church and its front organizations.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c.,

THOUGHTON OF SOWERBY,
House of Lords.
September 19.

Sri Lanka: A tragedy is taking place in Sri Lanka: the political conflict following the recent election is turning into a racial massacre. It is estimated by reliable sources that between 250 and 300 Tamil citizens have lost their lives and over 40,000 have been made homeless. Limitation on travel is making it hard for correspondents in Sri Lanka to get the world to know what is happening. The Tamils are a community of over two million who flourished under the British, but have suffered discrimination since. They have now

lost confidence in their treatment by the Sinhalese majority and are calling for a restoration of their separate national status, which they had for many centuries before the British came. At the last elections, the Tamil party advocating a separate state gained overwhelming majorities in all Tamil districts. This, no doubt, triggered off the murders, which are said to have been committed either by police acting without orders or with the connivance of the police.

At a time when the West is awake
to the evils of racialism, the racial
persecution of the Tamils and denial
of their human rights should not
be met with protest. The British
have a special obligation to protest,
as these cultivated people were put
in the mercy of their neighbours less
than thirty years ago by the British
Government. They need our atten-
tion and support.

JOHN FOSTER,
DAVID ASTOR,
ROBERT BIRLEY,
GUS BLOM-COOPER,
JAMES FAWCETT,
SINGLETON FOOT
MICHAEL SCOTT,
Hare Court,
emple, EC4.

From my personal experience of the excellent work done by VSOs in Africa, I cannot imagine a more reasonable basis for such "cuts" than the budget already meagre, for 1980.

These young people probably do give good per pound of expenditure for the peoples with whom they work overseas than any other group of our own or to developing countries. It would be a tragedy if they were prevented, or discouraged, from volunteering their services by ham-fisted and weak administration at home.

Noting the details of a resettlement grant which seems to be so important to serving volunteers, but I can testify to the selfless service given by volunteers overseas for very little money.

The volunteers deserve public support and I sincerely hope that their complaint will be considered sympathetically and speedily.

Yours faithfully,
E. B. PURDY
Rosedale Road,
West Dulwich, SE21.
April 16.

From Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow, East (Conservative)

Sir, I believe that those union leaders who rushed in with a hasty response to Mrs Thatcher's referendum suggestion will regret their initial judgment as the days pass; and that the attractions of this imaginative idea will sink in increasingly.

The essentials of the concept seem to have escaped Mr. Jack Jones. Such a referendum would be a last resort, not the first one, in fact that it existed as a possible step—not a "weapon"—ought to be a powerful factor in concentrating minds against the industrial stoppage which does not just close a factory, but virtually stops the whole country. The referendum is "constitutional" in nature and by no means a routine replacement for all the other elements in the industrial relations apparatus. It is said that union leaders are far too wary to take such a step, like the one if they are proposed from outside their own immediate circle.

Since major industrial disputes are no longer of concern only to the employers and employees immediately involved, but affect the public at large, I am sure that many rank and file trade union members and their wives will warmly welcome this proposal.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH DYKES,
House of Commons,
September 19.

From Mr S. M. Swierling
Sir, Your leading article (September 14, It Won't Go Away) presents with justification a somewhat gloomy perspective of the future relationship between government, whether Labour or Conservative, and the trade union movement.

Mr James Prior, as you assert, is rightly accused of the strategy of seeking to reconcile the trade unionists to the Conservative Party so that a Conservative government can work peacefully with them. Yet it is highly arguable as to whether the increasingly defensive posture to-

From Mrs Elizabeth Young
Sir, Lord Chalfont has not over the

years been quite so timely in "sounding the alarm" about Soviet "imperialism" as the American press in his articles. And the Western Balance of Power, which the Americans built against the West, "doomwatching" is less of a joke" (*The Times*, September 6).

It was as recently as 1970 that the Chinese foreign documents endorsed the Chinese then North Vietnamese peace proposals at the Labour Party Conference; in 1972 he was appealing for your correspondence columns to support for the Soviet-backed Comrade for disarmament, Security and Cooperation (Comrade Shitikov, of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, was in charge of that exercise); and in 1973 he was still attributing to America the "policy of superiority in strategic weapons over the Russians." (It had in fact been clear since the mid-sixties that the Russians were going for strategic superiority over the Americans, and the Chinese were achieving it.)

Lord Chalfont is now out of date again: Soviet strategic preponderance in the long-term, which in the last decade has looked assured, no longer does. Mr Carter's arrival and his espousal of the Cruise missile and the Neutron bomb appear to the Russians themselves as a threat to their strategic superiority, as grave as that which American ballistic missile defences appeared to them to pose in 1969.

In addition to the threat of the new American weapons, there are

From Mr Philip Goodhart, MP for Bromley, Beckenham (Conservative)
Sir, Your admirable leading article

the plight of Vietnamese refugees. "They must not be left to die" (September 15), gives a rather optimistic picture of the ability of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to help those escaping from Vietnam by boat.

The United Nations refugee programme is dealing effectively and humanely with those who have fled from Thailand, from Cambodia and Laos on foot. But the High Commissioner is hard pressed to find any country in South East Asia which will give temporary refuge to refugees.

As chairman of the Parliamentary committee for aid to Indo-Chinese refugees, I wrote to President Carter on September 5 asking him to open the transit camps at Guam to provide temporary haven for these unfortunate people. I also suggested that there should be international co-operation to find a

From Professor Norbert Lynton

reported concerning the Berliff
report referred specifically to the
British Arts Department of the small
specialist staff operating on a shoe-
string budget and through the local
experience of the Council's repre-
sentatives abroad, sends out exhibi-
tions of old and new British art
and generally promotes its cause.
This work is greatly valued outside
Britain. I should like to stress
in this aspect of its value to sur-
vivors.

At home we have a very small
public for modern art, with scarcely
a handful of collectors among us.
I should like to meet such of our
civilization and patronage we are
unwillingly reluctant to afford them.
They do so thanks first of all to
their abilities but they are most
effectively seconded by the Council,
many of them would be willing
to confirm. Our contributions,
made by the Council, to big
international art events such as the
biennial exhibitions to Venice and
Paris have met with repeated
triumphs of success in the form of
prizes as well as keen critical
public interest.

At this moment there is in
London a large British art exhibi-
tion which is drawing crowds as

From Sir Louis Petch
Sir, Once more we have an investigating committee this time the Expenditure Committee of the House of Commons repeating the wearisome nonsense that the system of recruitment to the Civil Service shows a bias in favour of Oxford and Cambridge graduates. I submit that there is no bias, and that any preponderance in numbers is very easily explained.

I have no doubt that the majority of boys and girls with intellectual abilities who enter school at public school, grammar school or comprehensive, put Oxford and Cambridge at the top of their university priority list. Thus these two still attract a high proportion of the best brains in the country and are in a position to skim off the cream. Since the Government commission, to which I have referred, is now in operation, does the same thing which it is anxious to recruit to, it is only to be expected that Oxford and Cambridge will predominate.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS PETCH.
20, St. John's Road,
Twickenham,
Middlesex.
September 15.

From Mr Christopher Scott
Sir, The Times reported last night's
BRIEF

CHRISTOPHER SCOTT,
60 Highgate Hill, N.Y.

From Mr Geoffrey McLean
Sir, The problem of Atlantic yachts-

men like Mr Rodgers and Mr
Brideman in establishing contact
is one that applies to very few
others. Really it is one of the
hazards they have to accept if they
embark on such voyages, particu-
larly in 25-foot boats. Most of us
more time and restrict our
sailing to coastal passages.

Here the situation has been
changed completely in the last two
years since HM Coastguard has
been equipped all round our coast-
line with VHF radio on channels
16 and 67. As an example, on
a passage from the Clyde to Holy-
head, I was in contact with either Ardrossan, Ramsey
or Holyhead for the whole of the
80-mile passage. All of these
stations maintain a 24-hour watch
as well as numerous other stations
along the Clyde and the
Anglessey radio, the Navy guard
boats and the numerous Sealink
ferries. This is one of those quiet
improvements in sea safety that
often go unrecognized.

JOE FREY MCLEAN,
Leanton House,
Salop Street,
Volverhampton.

From Mr J. Windsor Lewis
 Sir, Your correspondent Dr Eustace

shorter seems disquieted by his membership of the Dictionary and asks the members of the COD to consider the word codicil. The best advice for him is not to take lexicographers too seriously and least of all when it comes to matters of pronunciation which are the most elusive for them. The members of the COD who are usually current for a generation or more before they make their way into most dictionaries. CONROVER was in educated use over 50 years ago; it first made the *Oxford English Dictionary* in 1976. *cod* was just *double*. *cod* was where yet. *Armadá* to rhyme with *go* but was the only form offered by the COD until last year. The lexicographers mainly used by the foreigners turned up to the COD. At least the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English* (1974) recommends its users to adopt the *cod* vowel rather than *codicil* and in *codicil* and also in *codify*. Whether *cod* is the very thing or not. Only one other dictionary has done so yet (the *Oxford Concise Pronouncing Dictionary*). The rash lexicographer responsible in both cases was

from Mr Clive Davies
 Mr. What would children be doing

not watching television? (Mr G. Campbell-Smith, letters, September 25) Some, to be sure, would be watching the same in the improving days. Mr Campbell-Smith suggests, and others, we can be equally sure, would be roaming the streets, learning the pleasures to be got from smoking, drinking, drug-taking, sexual experimentation, fighting, committing criminal damage and so on and so on.

In the fifty-year-old debate about a connexion between the cinema and television and juvenile delinquency, only one certain fact has emerged from the welter of accumulation of evidence: that the child, growing in the cinema or at home watching television is not, for the moment at least, committing any crimes.

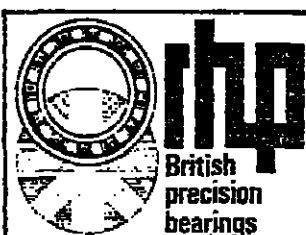
Yours sincerely,
LIVE DAVIES.

Department of Sociology,
University of Liverpool,
Senior Rathbone Building,
Wirral Street,
Liverpool.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

هنا من الأول



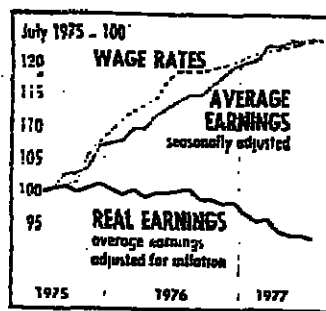
Why scrapyards
panic studies
re bursting
the seams,
page 17

Phase two earnings rise held at 8.8pc during a year of soaring prices

David Blake
Economic Correspondent

Average earnings in Britain held at 8.8 per cent under phase two, according to official figures published yesterday. The figures, showing a negligible increase in earnings in the first year of pay restraint, were a surprise, given the fact that the Government had expected a 12 per cent rise in earnings in 1977.

The figure is to some extent offset by the fact that the average earnings of all employees in all industries and services covered by the monthly earnings survey released by the Department of Employment.



WAGES

The following are the index numbers for basic rates of wages for all manual workers in all industries and services and for average earnings of all employees in all industries and services covered by the monthly earnings survey released by the Department of Employment.

	(1) Hourly rate (July 31 1975 = 100)	(2) Average earnings (July 31 1975 = 100)	(3) Change in (1) and (2) at annual rate
1976			
July	219.0	263.1	13.3
Aug	219.1	267.2	12.2
Sept	219.2	266.1	12.0
Oct	219.5	269.0	12.0
Nov	220.1	270.2	11.7
Dec	221.5	277.1	17.6
1977			
Jan	223.8	278.1	14.2
Feb	224.8	278.7	9.9
March	225.2	283.8	10.0
April	226.0	283.1	7.4
May	226.8	286.2	11.4
June	228.5	286.2	4.5
July	229.3	286.3	4.6
Aug	229.3	na	na

settlements, the actual figure would have been little different even if there had been no post-employment.

They estimate that the effect of the delay in settlements has only been of the order of 0.1 or 0.2 percentage points.

The actual increase in earnings

Share prices cut by heavy bout of selling

By David More

Share prices suffered from a heavy bout of profit-taking in the first two hours of trading on the London stock market yesterday.

Though the pressure eased later, there was only a partial recovery and the FT index closed 15 points lower at 516.9, its worst session for more than seven months.

Gilt-edged stocks, dipped by as much as 12 amid speculation that there might be official moves this week to stop interest rates falling further.

With the index down by around 6 per cent from last Wednesday's peak, there was some difference of opinion among dealers on the significance of this reaction.

Some see the fall as little more than predictable profit taking and would not be unduly alarmed to see prices fall, perhaps by as much as 10 per cent from the peak.

But a majority feel that investors were unsettled by last week's crop of disappointing results which culminated with GKN's figures late on Friday.

They discern a growing unease that the economy in general and company profits in particular may not be as healthy as might have been supposed from the recent sharp rise in the market over the past few weeks.

Caroline Atkinson writes: For the first time for several weeks the Bank of England yesterday was not selling pounds to hold sterling down, but buying some to support the rate.

Sterling closed down 8 points at £174.20 against the dollar, with the effective rate index off 0.1 at 62.3.

There was not much activity in the markets, and certainly nothing which could be described as a rush to sell sterling.

But the recent falls in British interest rates and the rising trend of United States rates is making some investors think twice about leaving their money in pounds.

Disagreement on phase two deal with staff associations Nube withdraws from banks pay machinery in inter-union conflict

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

Intense inter-union friction in the English clearing banks, which is bedevilling pay negotiations for 200,000 staff, came to a head yesterday.

The TUC-affiliated National Union of Bank Employees (Nube) carried out a long-term threat and informed the Federation of London Clearing Bank Employers that it was withdrawing from joint negotiating machinery.

Nube shares the bargaining with the staff associations of Lloyds, Barclays and National Westminster, whose umbrella organization is the Confederation of Bank Staff Organizations.

It is overall the bigger body but the staff associations have the voting majority in the joint bargaining structure in the English clearing banks. In Midland there is no staff association because of a takeover by the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS). In Williams and Glyn's Nube is the sole union.

Longstanding rivalry between the two bodies has been intensified by a division over a new national pay deal for

English clearing bank staff.

Nube wants to settle for a phase two £2.50-£4 deal from July 1; the staff associations are seeking to delay the settlement and want 10 per cent from August 1.

Despite the TUC vote in favour of the 13-month rule, the confederation is sticking to its intention of delaying a deal for a month.

Under the internal bargaining machinery the affair is now being put to arbitration and a result is not expected before November. It has become increasingly clear that divided staff representation is hampering industrial relations in one of the most important areas of British industry.

Nube yesterday formally notified its decision to withdraw from the joint machinery to the chairmen of Lloyds, National Westminster and Barclays, and to the federation, which covers all of the "big five".

The union is asking for sole recognition and for a phase two settlement, which is being held up because of the inter-union conflict to be paid immediately.

The two bodies also clashed over the 1975 settlement, when Nube wanted 25 per cent and the staff associations sought a lesser figure. Nube said yesterday: "The latest affair is one of a long series of frustrations we have felt in the joint negotiating machinery. Members are not happy with the way pay negotiations are going on."

Nube is withdrawing from both the national and domestic bargaining machinery, which respectively involves the joint negotiating council for the English clearing banks and the negotiating councils of Barclays, National Westminster and Lloyds.

The confederation made clear last night that it intended to pursue its 10 per cent claim and declared that Nube's withdrawal from the joint bargaining machinery would be a "disaster" to members and a political decision not in the interest of bank staff.

Nube said: "There is no chance of getting more than a phase two settlement under arbitration and many people are becoming fed up with the staff associations' attitude. We are now strong enough to go it alone."

Friends, not suitors, take stake in Wilmot

Mystery, speculation and confusion surrounding Wilmot-Breeden, the motor component manufacturer, appeared to have been resolved yesterday to the satisfaction of everyone, except, perhaps, to those who have been hoping for a takeover bid.

It was disclosed that a 7.94 per cent stake in Wilmot had been taken over by Andrew Weir, at first sight a seemingly unlikely strategic shareholder, being private and close company with interests mainly in shipping.

Mr Weir has said that it has no intention of launching a takeover bid and that the holding is a long-term investment. Wilmot, only too glad to hear such a reassuring message, has been repeating the message to the world at large in tones that could never be described as sotto voce.

Takeover rumours abounded when it was learnt that Dr Daniel McDonald, at one time chairman of BSR and now living in retirement in Geneva, was having a 9 per cent stake in Wilmot around the market.

Dr McDonald sold a relatively small amount in the market before selling the bulk to Weir at 87.5p a share, to raise about £1.4m.

Wilmot had asked Dr McDonald to sell the entire stake through the market spread among several buyers. But, having received assurances as to the future of the holding, the company is nevertheless happy with the new home found for the bulk of the shares.

It has few of the major stake is the family firm of Lord Inverforth (family motto: "Through labour to honour"), whose father was created the first Baron in 1919, having been a member of the Army Council from 1917. He was Minister of Munitions from 1919 to 1921.

Weir has a considerable fleet of small bulk carriers and owns the Bank Line. As well as being a ship owner it is also involved in insurance underwriting.

Dr McDonald has a few other investments, but Mr Kenneth Peters, a director, said yesterday the stake in Wilmot was essentially the first step in widening the group's investments. The decision had also been helped by the fact that a large block of shares was on offer.

Asked if Weir intended to increase its stake, he said it would depend on the price. If the "price dropped out of bed" the company would have to become more deeply involved, but the company hoped "the stake would grow with Wilmot".

Weir wants to diversify because it was "no secret that shipping is not the stablest of industries".

Dr McDonald bought into Wilmot in the dark days of 1974 and has easily doubled the value of his investment, although there are some who believe that his buying price was as low as 20p to 25p.

Dr McDonald has not only made a handsome profit but has provided support for the company's shares when it seemed that the world was coming to an end, one of his advisers said.

Wilmot has been particularly upset by the recent spate of takeover rumours. Mr Laurence Olphind, the company secretary, commented: "There was nothing to speculate about. We have had no discussions with any other group on a possible takeover. We have no intention of being taken over. The purchase will now help matters."

Desmond Quigley

BARCLAY Only 300,000 workers settled July, and although figures for August are not yet available, many are still thought to be negotiating.

The index of wage rates for a few leading groups and weekly rates, being made by the King's Press, did not change at all in August. But this index is thought to be of no real use in assessing pay movements, because it is distorted by the fact that engineering wages no longer have a national settlement.

Thus the average earnings figures are the only reliable guide to movements in pay, though even these do not cover workers. Statistics at the Department of Employment show that the average earnings of all employees in all industries and services covered by the monthly earnings survey released by the Department of Employment.

The actual increase in earnings

Community seeks 50 pc rise in IMF quotas

By Michael Horvath
Economic Correspondent

Finance ministers of the 12 European countries agreed here in principle to propose an equal-proportionate increase of up to 50 per cent in International Monetary Fund quotas when they meet in Washington on September 21.

The IMF quota represents a country's contribution to the fund and also determines the amount which countries in balance of payments difficulties may draw from the fund. The size of the quota also affects a member country's voting powers.

The equal-proportionate increase means one affecting all countries in equal proportions rather than one applied selectively.

The only serious objection to the proposed 50 per cent increase came from Dr Hans Apel, West German Finance Minister.

He suggested instead that the increase should be lower for a first round, and then raised for succeeding tranches, as they became subject to stiffer conditions.

Expected discussion of a European Commission paper expressing concern about the EEC's low growth outlook—a figure of 3 to 3.5 per cent is forecast for 1977 and 1978—was postponed until the second half of next month, when ministers intend to examine the Community's economic prospects for the next year.

Mr Healey would not be drawn either on the paper's suggestion that some modest stimulation of domestic demand might now be in order, or on the details of the Government's own package of reflationary measures expected in the autumn.

He would say only that there was "a feeling that the stimulus should be steady and come as a rather, than too much and too late".

Japanese share of ship orders still falling

Peter Hill
Economic Correspondent

In response to vigorous European criticism Japan offered a package of measures designed to make placing of contracts with its yards less attractive.

Japanese delegates will certainly point to the orders trend over the first seven months as a vindication of their policies. European delegations—which are to discuss in Brussels later this week their tactics for the Paris meeting—will see the trend as a justification of their opposition to Japanese aspirations, but are expected to stress the need for continued restraint.

The latest indications, based on statistics collected by Lloyd's Register of Shipping, show that Japan secured 70 and 77 per cent of world orders in January and February this year, before the restraint package came into effect in April to 52 per cent.

In the next three months it fell to 38 per cent before rising

Leyland's toolmakers threaten new strike

By Clifford Webb

Three thousand "rebel" toolmakers are threatening to plunge Leyland Cars deeper into its latest cash flow crisis, which results from the 11-week strike at Lucas components plants, and is estimated to have cost the state-controlled group £100m worth of car production.

Tomorrow Mr Roy Fraser, the toolmakers' leader, will announce plans for an all-out strike beginning October 28 unless management meets his demands for separate bargaining machinery.

But to do so would bring Leyland Cars into conflict with the men's own union, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, whose rules restrict wage bargaining to district committees only.

The date is significant and has clearly been chosen to ensure full support from toolmakers employed at Longbridge, the biggest plant in Leyland Cars—with 20,000 manual workers.

The present Longbridge pay deal expires at the end of next month. Despite the much publicised refusal of Leyland to suffer on August 26 when their strike call was rejected by a shopfloor rebellion of moderates, opinion now seems to be moving in favour of a seppage.

Negotiations for a new pay deal due to come into operation on November 1 are now in the final phase of the official dispute procedure.

It is only six months since a month-long strike by toolmakers cost Leyland 50,000 cars worth £150m in retail prices. More than 35,000 Leyland workers were laid off.

Company executives have since admitted that its cash flow problems became so acute in March that it was "once again pushed to the very brink".

All big investment programmes—including the £250m new Mini project—were stopped and the National Enterprise Board ordered a detailed appraisal of Leyland Cars' entire operations.

The investment freeze was lifted in June, but in doing so Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, issued another stern warning about the urgent need for improved industrial relations if the Government were to continue giving financial support to Leyland.

The union-management working party set up in the wake of the last toolmakers' strike to try to reform pay and industrial relations, met in Coventry yesterday.

At a press conference later, Mr Terry Duffy, Midland national executive member of the AUEW, said: "We are running out of time. There is no doubt that the people are girding themselves for battle. Union fight, page 16



Mr Leslie Murphy: likely to express a grave view.

NEB chief to put view on disruption

By Malcolm Brown

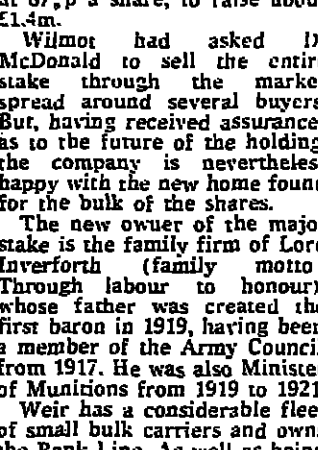
Anxiety over the continuing disruption at Leyland is expected to be voiced today by Mr Leslie Murphy, the new chairman of the National Enterprise Board, when he introduces the board's interim statement for the six months ended September 21.

Labour troubles and the collapse of Leyland's first-half profits—down to only £12.6m for the six months to July 2, from the £53.8m recorded in the comparable 1976 period—are causing considerable problems over the funding of the new modernization and investment programme.

In July the Government authorized the NEB to lend Leyland another £100m, but Leyland has to match the board's money with its own in a ratio around 1 to 1.5.

Mr Murphy can be expected to underline the damage that further disruption at Leyland would do to the company's chances of successfully pushing through its investment programme.

While not adopting a threatening posture the NEB chairman is likely to let it be known that the board views the present situation in the gravest possible light.



Desmond Quigley

Pay dispute closes bus and truck plants in Lancashire

By R. W. Shakespeare

Production was at a standstill at British Leyland's five bus and truck factories in Lancashire yesterday as 9,000 shop floor workers went on strike.

The strike was called immediately before the factories at Leyland and Chorley closed for a week's holiday. The workers were due back yesterday, but a spokesman said: "The entire complex is closed and all the workers are out."

Shopfloor negotiators had rejected management proposals for a new wages deal that would give workers an average 7.6 per cent increase with the opportunity to earn a further 15 per cent through a "self-financing" productivity deal.

They had demanded a substantial pay increase "without strings, a 35hr working week and a reduction in the number of wage grades."

Yesterday, 4,000 shop floor workers who were laid off have been told to report back to their jobs tomorrow as the British Leyland factory at Bathgate, West Lothian.

A company spokesman said that the resumption of production follows "certain assurances given" by 600 clerical staff who started a two-day strike yesterday in support of a £20 a week wage claim.

The spokesman added: "By a lessening of disruptive action by the clerical staff during the current dispute it is hoped that the company will be able to maintain production at an acceptable level."

US senators urge protection for steel industry

From Our United States Economics Correspondent
Washington, Sept 19

A forceful plea to President Carter to take measures to protect the American steel industry from foreign competition has been made by Senator Jacob Javits and Senator Daniel Moynihan of New York.

The senators, who support the protectionist campaign mounted by American steel manufacturers, wrote to the President asking him to initiate immediate international negotiations on steel sales to the United States.

They said foreign manufacturers were selling their products in America at prices either below cost or below the prices they charged in their home markets.

The American Iron and Steel Institute reported today that imports in July accounted for almost 19 per cent of United States steel supply—"their largest market penetration so far this year."

The institute reported that steel imports had now approached 20 per cent of the American supply for three consecutive months.

South Africa and Taiwan kept out of energy talks

From Roger Violevo
Istanbul, Sept 19

Delegations from South Africa and Taiwan have been barred from the recent World Energy Conference, which opened here today. The Turkish Government today refused visas for the 16 South Africans and the seven Taiwanese who were expected to attend the conference. The 13 Israeli delegates were given visas only 48 hours before the opening.

The conference, which tries to provide a non-political forum for discussion on energy, has also run into problems on an other political front. Three East European countries, led by the Soviet Union, tried unsuccessfully to prevent a discussion on the Commission's proposed new shipbuilding directive which will replace the present guidelines on January 1.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 212.43-51.4
The FT index: 516.9-15.0

Rises	Falls
Edin & Dundee 10p to 144p	Allied Colloids 11p to 283p
E. Rand Prop 19p to 212p	Bechtel 16p to 632p
Furness Withy 16p to 348p	Courtsall 5p to 122p
	Dunlop 3p to 114p
	Fisons 25p to 360p
	GKN 25p to 315p
	Hawker Sidd 6p to 200p
	Heath CE 11p to 252p
	Imp Chem Ind 12p to 322p
	Kayser Urmann 4p to 41p
	Linfood 15p to 350p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia S	1.63	1.58
Belgium Fr	30.25	28.25
Canada S	64.75	61.75
Denmark Kr	1.91	1.86
Finland Mk	11.11	10.71
France Fr	7.20	7.20
Germany Dm	8.82	8.50
Greece Dr	4.22	4.00
Hongkong S	64.25	61.25
Italy Lr	64.25	61.25
Japan Yn	157.00	151.00
Netherlands Gld	490.00	465.00
Norway Kr	4.45	4.23
Portugal Esc	9.34	9.48
Spain Pes	76.00	69.00
Sweden Kr	8.88	8.76
Switzerland Fr	149.75	144.50
US \$	8.73	8.38
Yugoslavia Dn	4.32	4.10
	1.79	1.74
	36.00	33.75

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On other pages

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Equities fell heavily

Gilt-edged securities lost ground. Dollar premium 90.62 per cent (effective rate 27.36 per cent). Sterling fell 8 points to \$174.20. The effective exchange rate index was at 62.3.

Gold gained \$1.25 an ounce to \$149.525. SDR-1 was 1.16091 on Monday, while SDR-2 was 0.66622. Commodities: Return's index was at 1501.5 (previous 1495.3). Reports pages 19 and 20.

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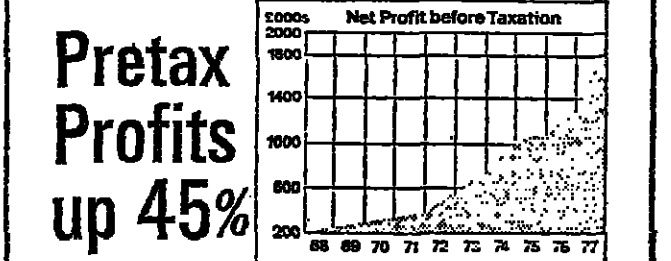
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COWAN, de GROOT

Pretax Profits up 45%



	1976/77	1975/76
Turnover	£27.5m	£20m
Pretax Profit	£ 1.81m	£ 1.25m
Post tax Profit	£ 1.89m	£ 0.56m
Net Tangible Assets per Share	44.4p	29.9p

Group turnover for the first quarter is well ahead of the same period last year. The forward sales position of the Toys and Giftware Division has increased significantly in the current financial year.

All companies in the Electrical and Hardware Division are improving their profitability.

A continuing friendly link exists with the 1,500 retail customers of the Russian Shop Division.

The Machinery Division's sales are well ahead of last year. We continue to seek suitable companies capable of alignment into the general thrust of our operations.

Desmond Quigley, Chairman

COWAN, de GROOT LIMITED
Wakefield House, Chart Street, London N1 6DH

Airfix Industries

In the year ended March 31st 1977, the group achieved record results for the 11th year in succession.

Profits: 24% before tax
Sales: £38m

Prospects:
"We have invested £3.4m in new products and machinery and have confidence that this will provide the basis for strong internal growth as the market improves."

Ralph R. M. Rhemann
Chairman

Airfix Industries

For copies of the 1976/77 Report and Accounts please write to The Company Secretary, Airfix Industries Limited, 11 Old Court Place, London, W.8

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GLC's plea for Ford factory in London

Home interest in the fact

In trying to ensure future sales profitability, can be raised to try to improve the Co-op's present 7.3 per cent slice of the retailing market.

At one time the movement held 12 per cent of the market.

But there have been anxieties that revenue, now the principal source of Co-op capital, has not so far been showing sufficient growth to justify substantially increased capital expenditure.

The interim merger plan could have improved the movement's chances of competing more efficiently on the High Street.

A single national federation was proposed, merging the parallel federal bodies of the Co-operative Union, the movement's central coordinating body, and the Wholesale Society, which is responsible for commercial activities.

The single federation would have been controlled by a national board elected by the various societies. Among the advantages could have been a pooling of expertise, easier achievement of corporate strategy and a greater specialization in retailing techniques.

It is the bigger, more successful of the retailing societies which backed the plan and have also wanted to see more rationalization by merger.

But in the Co-op's brand of democracy, is the fear that what might be won in High Street terms could be a loss to the movement's wider-ranging principles and activities.

From Ronald Karshaw
Zurich, Sept. 19

A decision by British Leyland to establish two foundries and close three others on the recommendation of a Swiss-based international firm of management consultants is being delayed by trade union opposition at one of the plants.

British Leyland said last night that the strategy and policy for foundries was still under discussion, and the company was not prepared to talk about it publicly until the matter was settled.

Mr. Willi Wegenstein, a principal of the Swiss-American firm Knight Wegenstein, said in Zurich that British Leyland was planning to plan a new grey iron foundry and an aluminium foundry. Three others were to be closed, and discussions were at a sensitive stage.

The aluminium factory had

From the Leader of the Greater London Council:
Sir Norman Howard, Greater London Council Opposition member at County Hall, should really ensure that he knows what he is talking about before rushing into print (Letters, Sept 15).

His suggestion that the Conservative-controlled GLC did nothing to try to persuade the Ford Motor Company to build a new factory in London is inaccurate. South Wales is both too distant and audacious.

Despite the fact that the Labour-controlled GLC administration were in regular contact with Ford over a period of some time, they did not persuade Ford to build the factory in London because they were not aware of the Fordord proposals.

The new Conservative GLC learned of the Ford plans from

a newspaper in August and immediately pleaded for a factory to be built in London. But the decision by that time must have been made. Negotiations must have been going on for months.

Ford's have, of course, state publicly that Dagenham's history of labour disputes is such that they will never build in London again. I am very sorry that this is so because London needs firms like Ford's.

But if Norman Howard is looking for scapegoats he should blame his Labour Government and Location of Offices Bureau for not encouraging firms to build out of London to the capital's detriment.

Yours faithfully,
HORACE CUTLER,
The County Hall,
London SE1 7PB.
September 16.

Home loans interest and the tax man

From Mr I. D. Morgan

Sir, It is infuriating that I can never find out exactly what the former union building societies give to the Inland Revenue to enable them to quantify the relief due to me in respect of mortgage interest paid. Furthermore the Inland Revenue positively discourages me from retelling them what I consider I have paid by the expedient of purchasing a thick line across the necessary column against mortgage interest item on the return forms.

Is it too much to ask that building societies should issue to all mortgagors certificates of interest paid during each year of assessment, in the same way as banks? These certificates could then be checked by borrower and then attached to their returns in support of claims for tax relief. The present system could then be discontinued with

Leyland Special Products 'aggressive expansion'

the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the office of the Comptroller of the Currency. The senator claims that "perhaps the most serious problem in bank regulation is the cozy relationship between the federal regulatory agencies and the banks they regulate. A single, unified bank regulatory agency free of bank industry ties could curb most of the abuses in banking." The senator requested information on insider loans from the Fed following the disclosures in recent weeks that Mr Bert Lance, director of the Office of Management and Enterprise, had obtained vast loans from the banks he controlled in Georgia.

The Fed conducted a sample survey of 335 banks of assorted sizes, and the survey results have been used to reach the conclusion that the total amount of outstanding insider loans by all American banks equals about \$16,000m.

The survey data, when projected to include all banks, clearly shows that there are, on one, such as those once run by Mr Lance, are far more involved in granting insider loans.

Projections suggest that total insider loans granted by the nation's banks, when aggregated, have more than \$500m in capital, amounted to \$4,429m in 1976.

Insider loans granted by the 14,164 banks with less than \$500m in capital (most actually have less than \$50m) totaled \$12.187m.

Not only is the company working for "several unions" of British Steel, but it had ideas for the reorganization of British Railways and several suggestions to make about necessary changes in the treatment of British managers and British trade unions.

Mr. Wegenstein's company produced the plan for the reorganization of the German railways. He said he had had many discussions about British Rail and was convinced it could be brought to a break-even situation. It would take some time to sort out.

In some respects, British Rail was better than the German railways in that it handled its own maintenance and had outside clients for whom it worked. A disadvantage was the trade union organization in Britain.

Mr. Wegenstein said that the German unions, you can have fair, but tough, discussions and they are listening."

Mr. Wegenstein said Britain as a whole had an important technological potential, but he emphasized the importance of creating a stimulus for management. "Money is a motivation factor," he said. On the trade union side he suggested that a gradual change to industrialized unions—one union for each plant—should be encouraged, but said the initiative should come from management.

Before union claims were registered, management should make a list of all possible improvements required over a period of 10 years and consult the unions with it.

From Mr J. D. Abell
Sir, Commenting on British Leyland's half-year results (*The Times* September 15) you state that the corresponding Desmond Quigley states that "none of Leyland's divisions has done particularly well", but goes on to report that the truck and bus sector made a profit of £2.2 million, while the non-automotive products made a profit of £7.1 million.

Although I cannot discuss the performance of Leyland truck and bus group, I must draw your correspondent's attention to the contribution from "non-automotive products", which effectively is the Leyland Special Products Group (LSP).

LSP has, in fact, performed outstandingly well in the first half-year to record profits before tax of £7.1 million compared with £5.3 million for the same period in 1976. These figures are after charging interest of £2.3 million, an in-

'Cash buyer'

From Mr J. H. E. Franklin
Sir, Why the delicacy, Mr Chestreil? (September 15).

When an estate agent is instructed to sell a house on a matter of course ascertain whether a prospective purchaser can purchase.

Time and again a purchaser says he is a "cash buyer" when ultimately it transpires he can only find the cash for the deposit.

There need be no embarrassment

crease of £1.4 million on last year. Turnover—like profits—was also ahead of our plan, and reached £103 million, compared with £77 million in the first half of last year.

More important for our 14,000 employees was the dramatic 50 per cent increase in capital expenditure of £3.3 million in the first half. Orders taken during the period were also up to 60 per cent on 1976, laying the foundation for the group to exceed its plan sales and profits for the full year.

The LSP motto is "Aggressive, Profitable Expansion". This has certainly been fulfilled in the first half of 1977.

Yours faithfully,
J. D. ABELL,
Managing Director, Lesland Steel Products, Snyburn Lodge, Nottingham Road, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE14 0NT.
September 16.

question

ment in inquiring whether he was a coal or gas sold an existing house, subject to contract and presumably to be contemporaneous with the purchase.

These simple questions would raise delay and criticism for which the solicitor is invariably blamed.

Yours faithfully,
J. H. E. FRANKLIN,
19 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2NS.

spokesmen and others' will no longer be asked to tell me where I have been.

Yours faithfully,
I. D. MORGAN,
23 Blaclington Road,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent TN2 5EG.
September 15.

Free choice of beer

From Mr Alan T. Harrison

Big—in Walsall there is a public house currently listed in the *Good Beer Guide*, some two hundred yards from the brewery supplying its mild ale. Indeed, as it is downhill from the brewery, the use of draught might even be optional. I gather the customers I gather to enjoy the beer served. This public house is one of those to be transferred from Bass to Charrington to Courage ownership, thus depriving the drinkers of the beer they have enjoyed.

Would it not be simpler, and at the same time could not a real choice be given to those customers, if the Campaign for Real Ale's suggestion were followed, and the licensees allowed to serve a draught beer from one of the seven independent breweries in the West Midlands, which would be cheaper, I imagine, than transporting beer from Bristol and phenomenally changing insignificance?

Yours faithfully,
ALAN T. HARRISON,
16 Bastow Road, Bloxwich,

Courtauld strikers meet today



Shop stewards at Courtauld's main factory in Coventry, where 600 men are employed, have called a meeting of the workers for today to study developments. The two-week-old dispute worsened on Friday when the 600 walked out, protesting because foremen were doing their jobs during a work-to-rule and overtime ban. Strikers were warned immediately that they faced disciplinary action by the stopping of work. At the same plant, a battle of overtime is being continued by 150 union members. They are claiming a similar productivity wage increase.

Japanese trade balance down

Japan had an overall balance of payments surplus of \$300m (about ¥172.5m) in August, down from a \$337m July surplus but still ahead of the surplus of about \$107m a year ago, the Ministry of Finance said in a preliminary report.

Trade in August, on an International Monetary Fund (IMF) basis, was in surplus, as expected, by ¥1,150m against a record \$2,048m surplus in July. This brought the current account into surplus by \$660m as the current account for the July ended at \$1,554m.

Exports in August rose 21 per cent. Imports continued to expand at a rate less than the official target of 12 per cent in the current month. March next year were up 11 per cent from a year earlier.

Italy shows record payments surplus

This follows estimated surpluses of 935,000m lire in July and 384,000m in June, and rounds Italy's overall payments on a cash basis for the first eight months of the year into a surplus of around 380,000m lire.

Marconi lands £9m order from Libya

Marconi Communication systems has won one of Britain's largest ever export orders for radio communications equipment for civil aviation use. Valued at more than £9m the new order has been placed by Libya. The equipment will be used to help Libya need to expand communications centres at the Tripoli and Benghazi airports.

Computer news

By John Huxley

A campaign to highlight the decline in Britain's roads due to lack of maintenance has been launched by the Asphalt and Coated Macadam Association. Stickers carrying the slogan "Good roads. Good maintenance makes good sense" are being distributed and association members will be asked to provide details of dangerous, inconvenient or unsightly road surfaces.

A spokesman for the association, whose membership covers 90 per cent of Britain's "black top" road, said: "Our principal aim is to convince the Government that a decisive majority of the electorate does care."

"In short, the campaign is an 'enactment, like new road building, has been one of the main casualties of public expenditure cuts. The June White Paper on transport policy indicated a reduction of £20m on maintenance from the planned level earlier this year."

In common with the remainder of the construction industry, the "black top" sector has been going through a difficult period. In 1976 22 million tons of materials were manufactured, against 29 million tons in 1973.

Meanwhile, Mr Chandor will be responsible for markets outside the United States. Inscac does not trade in the United Kingdom, but will be marketing its products through a number of its member companies abroad.

The products to be marketed are likely to include both existing off-the-shelf items and new systems which will be developed with Inscac money. A £20m commitment over the next five years was announced by the NEB last June.)

The founder-members of Inscac are computer manufacturers, programmers and systems engineers. Peter Adams, managing director of SPL International, the software house which is owned by Simon Engineering, said that negotiations for the admission of his company were virtually complete, though the actual contracts had not yet been signed.

Inscac's first priority will be to develop markets for software and systems. Mr Pearcus says that the company will be concentrating on hardware operations and the hardware side of the industry.

While the National Enterprise Board's involvement in the field of computer system exports will be restricted to the products of its member companies, a company's definition, companies in which the Board has a financial stake—a wider scheme to promote such exports in the North

Aid for management

Aid for management: A new scheme to enable small manufacturing companies to assess computer aids for production management are likely to be viable has been launched by the Department of Industry. This will finance feasibility studies by outside consultants in the firms concerned.

The scheme is aimed at companies with up to about 500 employees which might be unaffordable to them. It will finance the use of computer-aided production management.

It will continue for three years and will be administered by the Blacknest Production Control Group, a group of engineers from the Armic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermaston.

Proposals from independent consultants will be assessed by the group and, if accepted, consultancy fees up to £2,000 for feasibility studies will be paid. The consultant is then commissioned by the company to install a computer-aided production management system, he will refund the study fee.

Inquiries should go to the group at Blacknest Centre, Swindon, near Reading, Berkshire.

Kenneth Owen

need to expand communication centres at the Tripoli and Benghazi airports.

**BRASIL EXPORT 77,
YOUR BEST
OPPORTUNITY
IN THE WORLD
TRADE MARKET.**

This is the date: November 11 to 20, 1977.

This is the place: Parque Anhembi, São Paulo, Brazil.
This is the name: BRASIL.

A giant trade fair where you find all the best Brazilian raw materials, manufactured goods, services and technology at the competitive prices over

BRASIL EXPORT 77 is presently the best shopping place for profit-minded businessmen and governments.

Over 800 Brazilian exhibitors will be gathered at Parque Anhembi to offer you the best

Parque Anhembi is the biggest trading complex in Latin America, covering a 500 thousand sq. mt. area including an 80 thousand sq. m. roofed Exhibition Pavillion, landscaped parking lots, service stations, bus

terminals, within easy access of the city of São Paulo.

Nothing has been overlooked to provide the best attention and comfort to foreign visitors. From the moment of your arrival and during your whole stay, a complete infrastructure will be at your disposal: round-the-clock Airport-Hotel-Parque Anhembi transportation and vice-versa; reception and public relations services with multilingual staff; special events, shows; seminars; information services; secretary, translation services; tourist information stands; travel agencies; restaurants, snack bars, cafeterias; banking services and many other.

BRASIL EXPORT 77 is carried out under the auspices and with the support of the Brazilian Government. It is sponsored by the Ministry of Industry and

Commerce, Ministry of Finance,
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Foreign Trade Department and
International Division.

And they will provide you all the financing, promotion, technique and marketing consultancy and advice you might need. Whatever your field of activity

For further information, consult the official Brazilian Representatives in your country.

They will be glad to attend, help and direct you.



**BRASIL
EXPORT
77 TRADE
FAIR**

THE BEST ALTERNATIVE

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the airline's sample phrase translate as "Excuse me, please. Can you tell me how to get to the main railway station?"

EUROPA
BUSINESS NEWSAmericans reconciled to strong
dollar, but at lower levelCentral banks
help in quest
for stability

Summer 1977 has proved particularly rich in monetary events, with the fall of the dollar, raising fears of a repetition of its 1973 nosedive, and the convulsions of the European market, which shed yet another skin with the withdrawal of the Swedish crown. After the confidence-restoring calm of the first half of the year, we are now set for another period of confusion and impotence.

Certainly not. Despite the unfortunate psychological effects of these disruptive developments, the world-wide search for stability continues, as witness the flexible reaction by the central banks.

Although they were initially taken unawares by the dollar's decline, which was accelerated by speculation and contradictory statements from Mr. Michael Blumenthal, United States Secretary of the Treasury, and Dr. Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank, they quickly recovered their composure to establish new levels—neither too high nor too low—reflecting a balance between the objectives of sustaining competitive positions, exports and activity on the one hand and restoring their economies to health and curbing inflation on the other.

Even the Americans seem to have come round to the idea—after the time being at least—of a dollar which stands strong, but at a lower level. As can be seen from a comparison of our two most recent monetary tables, developments to early September resulted in the following adjustments of parity against the dollar: Deutschmark up by 1.5 per cent, yen by

4 per cent, French franc by 0.5 per cent.

A remarkable new development which confirms the general desire for healthier economies has been the way in which the pound, which normally follows the dollar, has broken away on this occasion. To begin with the Bank of England did, admittedly, take advantage of the dollar's weakness to build up its reserves, which are now approaching the record figure of \$16,000m, but it has since allowed the pound to rise from \$1.72 to \$1.74.

The main European countries' policy of putting their economies in order is still showing results, as can be seen from our economic table: lower inflation rates, particularly in Britain and Italy (10 per cent and 12 per cent), reductions in budget deficits expressed as percentages of gross national product in West Germany (2.9 per cent) and Britain (5.5 per cent), reductions in trade deficits with Italy recording a surplus in July, a slower rate of increase in wages in Britain and France.

These favourable trends and, to be honest, the weakness of demand for credit are allowing short-term interest rates to continue their general decline without endangering currencies.

This can be seen first of all in overnight rates which have come down to 12 per cent in Italy, 8 per cent in France, 7 per cent in Britain and 4 per cent in West Germany.

Discount rates are also coming down: in Britain with three more reductions in minimum lending rate (MLN) in succession from 8 per cent to 7 per cent then 7 per cent, then to 6½ per cent and then 6 per

THE ECONOMY					
	Growth (per cent)	Wages	Budget	Stability	Inflation
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
United States	7	8.5	-2.5%	-2%	6.5
West Germany	-3	3	-2.9%	-2.7%	4.0
France	-2	4	-0.8%	-2.3%	11.0
Great Britain	0	3	-5.5%	-3.2%	10.0
Italy	3	3	-9%	-1.8%	12.0

(1) Three-month average expressed as annual rate.
(2) Estimate for 1977.
(3) Estimate for fiscal 1977-78.
(4) As percentage of gnp and in national currency.

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS					
	Interest rate	Day	Prime	Against	Foreign exchange
	(per cent)	(to day)	rate	dollar	rate
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Dollar	10	6.125%	7.25%	100.9	-2
Deutschmark	(8)	4%	6.5%	2.326	(-15)
Franc	(8)	8.5%	9.3%	4.83	(-13)
Pound	(10)	7%	7%	1.743	(-13)
Lira	(13)	12½%	17%	883.4	(-13)

(5) Six months moving average expressed as annual rate.
(6) Figures in parentheses give percentage change in last month.
(7) End December 1975 = 100. Figure in parentheses gives position last month. Currencies are five listed on table plus Japanese yen.
(8) Change in previous month. Figure in parentheses gives change over previous 12 months.

cent (sic), in Italy from 15 per cent to 13 per cent and then 11½ per cent and even in France now, with a cut of one point from 10½ per cent to 9½ per cent. There is also a downward trend in prime rates, the rates available to top corporate customers.

It is to be hoped that these developments will work their way through to long-term rates, savings and investment, thus favouring a healthy recovery.

In this connection mention should be made of the plans announced on August 22 to boost the Italian economy, which include tax concessions, along the lines of what has already been done in West Germany.

In Italy as well as Britain, West Germany and France, the stock exchanges are back on a rising trend, although not without some hesitancy and setbacks. This is a somewhat surprising development at a time when growth rates are once again flagging in both Europe and the United States.

The course of events in the latter country should encourage caution on this side of the Atlantic in that it shows that sound financial conditions are not enough in themselves to ensure a recovery.

Indeed, in their efforts to maintain financial order, the Americans are having their work cut out to alleviate the

pressures created by a very high level of activity and are still obliged for the time being to go against the European tide and interest rates are rising, with overnight rates at above 6 per cent and prime rate at 7 per cent or even 7½ per cent recently.

Does this mean that rates are going to go much higher? No, not as long as the authorities manage to get the monetary situation under control, if necessary at the cost of a full in the growth rate. This is unfortunately not yet the case, as witness the recent upsurge in the United States money supply.

Maurice Boumnessath

FINANCIAL NEWS

Sony slows
down but
Record year
in sight

Tokyo, Sep 19.—Sony Corporation, the electronics giant, expects record net sales and income for the year to October 31, even though business is still tough.

In the nine months to July 31 sales rose 7.1 per cent to a record \$1.38 billion, but net income climbed 11.4 per cent to a record \$106m. But these achievements cloaked a poor third quarter.

In this quarter, net profits were only \$29m against \$40m in the same months the year before. Sales were \$459m compared with \$461m.

Sony Corporation said that though third-quarter net income and sales did not achieve the

Jubilee helps SGI to
double at half-time

By Victor Felstead

Stanley Gibbons International was confident enough a year ago and events have justified that confidence. In the first half year to June 30 turnover jumped 57 per cent to £591m and pre-tax profits leapt 127.9 per cent to £798,000.

An interim dividend of 2.27p gross is declared on the capital doubled by the recent rights issue, against 2p on the old capital.

Mr A. L. Michael, chairman, reports: "Trading continues at a high level and as we have been fortunate in securing some valuable collections during recent months the board is confident that the second half of the year will be at least as profitable."

So, pre-tax profits of around

£1.5m look likely for the year. SGI made a record £1m in 1976. All sections of the business increased their turnover in the first half year, well as stamps, SGI is in books, coins and maps as well as auctioneering.

The stamp issues in connection with the Silver Jubilee contributed to profits in the month. These issues brought many new collectors into the hobby which also benefited the group in the year ahead, the chairman declares.

While the stamp market accounts for a large part of profits, SGI's other collection activities are in a "very healthy position", and current results show that the group is gaining an increasing share of this and expanding market.

International

"exceptionally high" level of the same months in 1976, the results were the second highest on record.

It added: "Substantial sales increase of the Sony Betamax videotape recorders and video tapes contributed.

Warner-Lambert on course

Morris Plains, New Jersey.—Warner-Lambert (drugs and optical products) expects 1977 earnings to increase to \$2.35 a share and possibly more, from \$2.01 a year ago, Mr L. Burke Giffin, chairman, reports.

Third quarter sales and earnings, he said, are going according to plan. In the first half of this year the group earned \$124 a share, up 8 per cent

Borden cheerful

Record profits are "in prospect" for Borden Inc., a New York-based food and chemical company, for this year, Mr A. R. Marusi, the chairman, says.

The company aims at average annual growth rate of 10 per cent, which "we think is a reasonable objective, given the trend of our performance in recent years."

Briefly

Turnround
of £56,000
at Chambers

The difficulties involved in starting up a new soy plant at Chambers & Burgess, the seed crusher and edible oil refiner, seem to be over.

The results for the year to June 30 show a £56,000 turnround into pre-tax profits of £38,000. Turnover rose by 73.4 per cent to £12.3m and earnings a share were 1.97p, compared with a loss of 0.49p. The board has declared an interim dividend of 0.37p gross. Shareholders got nothing last year.

The figures are a pleasant surprise. Chambers forecast a small loss for the year back in March, thanks partly to dear raw materials.

The turnround began in the first half when the group turned in pre-tax profits of £22,000 against a loss of £7,000.

NORTON AND WRIGHT
Chairman states in the annual report that turnover for the first five months of the current year shows an increase of 24 per cent over the comparative period for the previous year.

BOVIS CORP
Bovis Corporation of Canada is to sell Consolidated Building Corporation the 2.1 million Consolidated Building shares owned by Bovis, at \$4 a share.

JARDINE BARCLAYS
Company has bought 30 per cent of issued shares of a Thai consumer finance company, Bangkok Investment, which is quoted on the Bangkok Stock Exchange.

WHITTINGTON ENG
For figures see table. Business continues to be brisk and pre-tax profit has been maintained despite higher costs.

Business appointments

New managing
director
of A Gallenkamp

Mr J. C. Z. Martin has been made managing director of A. Gallenkamp. Mr J. Valentin has become a director and Mr D. Sutton his alternate. Mr P. Haller has given up the post of joint managing director and continues as chairman.

Mr J. D. F. Miller has been appointed to the board of Coats Patons.

Mr J. White, Mr B. P. Ford and Mr D. Dunn have joined the board of L. Lipton. Mr J. A. Lipton, Mr D. Keating, Mr C. D. Thomas and Mr L. B. Collier have resigned.

Mr C. H. Tidbury, chairman-elect of Whitbread, and Mr C. A. A. Eagger, a director of Whitbread, are to join the board of Whitbread Breweries as non-executive directors. Mr P. O. G. Bennett, the retiring chairman of Whitbread, continues on the board.

Mr Christopher Shaw has been made managing director of James Halstead and Mr David Vaughan managing director of D. M. Coatings.

Mr F. R. Morgan has joined the board of Robert McKerr Group.

Mr Timothy Ling is to become a partner in Freeland.

Mr D. J. Olney is resigning from the partnership of W. Greenwell and is moving to New York to become the general partner of W. Greenwell Associates.

Mr Martin Chatwin has been appointed managing director of GMS Computing.

Satisfactory results forecast
for 1977 United Biscuits Interim Report

Group Results

At the halfway stage in 1976 our profits had increased by 84%. This was a particularly difficult target to beat, so I am pleased to be able to report that in 1977 sales have increased by £60 million to £323 million and profits before tax by £2 million to £17 million. This profit increase keeps pace with the combined effects of inflation in the U.K. and the U.S.A.

Margins in the U.K. improved, while in the U.S.A. where our volume increased by 4%, margins declined from the exceptionally high levels of the first half of '76 to a more normal but still acceptable level.

In Spain the launch of a major new product had to be delayed due to technical difficulties. Although considerable progress has been made, the planned break-even trading profit position for the year will not be achieved.

Since the AGM in May when I last reported to shareholders, we have taken up our option to acquire the Wimpy franchise in Europe and the rest of the world excluding the U.S.A. I see fast food as one of our most important future development areas.

Outlook

In both the U.K. and the U.S.A. trading is less buoyant than I had anticipated when I reported in May. Subject to the maintenance of stable industrial relations in this country, the profit for the year should show a satisfactory increase over 1976.

Consolidated Profit Statement for the
28 weeks ended 16th July, 1977

52 weeks to 1st January 1977 (Audited)		28 weeks to 16th July 1977 (Unaudited)	28 weeks to 17th July 1976 (Unaudited)
£000		£000	£000
302,600	Sales	187,701	150,821
200,900	United Kingdom (including exports)	122,305	104,306
12,700	U.S.A.	9,285	6,043
4,800	Europe	3,750	1,870
521,000	Rest of World	323,041	263,040
22,415	Trading Profit	11,806	8,381
14,024	United Kingdom	7,451	5,574
(801)	U.S.A.	(209)	(512)
280	Europe	153	(6)
35,918	Rest of World	19,201	16,437
2,672	Interest	2,164	1,416
33,246	Profit before Taxation	17,037	15,021
16,432	Taxation	8,424	7,513
16,814	Profit after Taxation	8,613	7,508
17.4p	Earnings per Share	8.3p	7.8p

Dividends		
	1977	1976
Interim (now declared)	1.7500p	1.5554p
Final (to be recommended, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances)	2.9162p	2.6866p
Total recommended dividend	4.6662p	4.2420p
Increase in proposed total dividend over 1976: (the maximum permitted under present legislation)	10%	

UB United Biscuits

United Biscuits (Holdings) Limited
Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5NN



McVITIES · CRAWFORDS · MACFARLANES · KP · CARRS · WIMPY · KEEBLER

19th September 1977

Heckler Laing.
Chairman

8½ per cent TREASURY
STOCK, 1982

ISSUE OF £800,000,000 AT £98.25 PER CENT

PAYABLE IN FULL ON APPLICATION

(namely £98.25 for every £100 of the Stock applied for)

INTEREST PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY ON 5th JANUARY AND 5th

JULY. The Stock is an investment falling within Part II of the First

Schedule of the Trustee Investments Act 1961. Application has been made to the

Comptroller of the Stock Exchange for the Stock to be admitted to the Official

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

The worst day since mid February

A week-end of cautious pressure and further reflection on the last week's clutch of disappointing results, culminating in a sharp fall on Friday, brought the FT 100 to its lowest point since mid February.

The FT 100 closed at 1,169.5, its lowest since mid February. The closing price was down 15.5 points from the previous day's close of 1,185.0.

The FT 100 was down 15.5 points from the previous day's close of 1,185.0. The closing price was 1,169.5.

GKN, whose figures at the end of last week confirmed, for some, earlier doubts about profits, dipped 25p to 315p, five points better than their low point of the day.

Others heavily in retreat and mostly at or around their low points were Glaxo 18p to 63p, Beecham 16p to 63p, ICI 12p to 42p, Unilever 10p to 52p and Fisons which closed 8p lower at 36p ahead of figures due next week.

Over in the food sector profits from United Biscuits were largely in line with most estimates but the chairman's warning on future profits was not to dealers liking and the shares slipped 7p to 166p. There was an even weaker performance from Borden, which slipped 10p to 17p, ahead of figures but which has lagged in recent weeks and where, therefore, there are no profits to be taken, held steady at 132p.

In view of the vulnerability of the building industry economic trends there was a surprisingly strong performance from the sector with most prices well above the worst.

After touching 265p AP Cement closed at an unchanged 275p, Wimpey lost 2p to 27p after 80p and even Tarmac held up comparatively well after last week's overseas losses to end a couple of points down at 17p. International Timber managed a gain of 4p to 127p, but Taylor Woodrow slumped 12p to 45p.

Clarification of the destination of a stake in motor component maker Wipac-Bredden lent weight to the theory that Associated Engineering, the popular choice as a takeover target, may not have the field to itself. But it did little for the shares which lost 51p to 86p as profits were taken.

Wm Lawrence touched 460p after last week's new of the Tilling approach, but Redfern Glass slipped 8p to 252p on inquiry news. But the star performer in the takeover sector was shipping major Furness Withy which shot up 16p to 348p on bid disposal that European Ferries still not ruled out in spite of last week's statement that talks have been discontinued.

Comment and continuing takeover hopes gave a lift to Tecumseh and by the end the shares were 51p up at 110p.

In the oil sector Tricentral slipped 4p to 192p in spite of figures which were much to the market's liking. But the majors were sucked into the general slump with BP down 10p to 916p and Shell trading down to 608p.

Press comment gave a lift to some of the discount houses notably Gillett Brothers which rose 6p to 330p, and Catter Ryder where the gain was 5p to 310p. Merchant bank Arbuthnot-Latham managed a tuppenny rise to 155p, but the cleaners were not so successful with Midland lowered 5p to 330p and 3p drops from both Lloyds at 250p and Barclays at 302p.

With last week's interest rate cut in mind property shares turned in a comparatively good showing, but some still lost ground, typical being Bernard Sunley 7p to 178p and Great Portland which slipped 6p to 288p.

In the gold sector a firm metal price helped some of the heavyweights, notably FS Geduld which added 75p for a close of £117.5.

There was a muddle over Rheem's partial bid for Redfern National. For some time separate prices were quoted for assumed and non assumed stock. The impression was that Rheem could keep any acceptance even if it failed. However it cannot, so logically there can only be one price. Friday is the final closing date and those who have bought recently and want to sell are having trouble getting share certificates: all "very messy" according to one jobber. Meanwhile the Redfern's shares slipped 8p to 352p.

Equity turnover on September 16 was £151.01m (31,262 bargains).

According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were GKN, ICI, Grand Metropolitan, Tarmac, Tube Inv new, Shell, Glaxo, BP, Stone-Platt, Gus "A", Beecham, BOC new, EAT Drd, Distillers, Furness Withy, Thos Tilling, John Brown and Vickers.

The making of carbon products has produced more waste than was expected so production fell at Thomas Marshall (Lloyds). This is the main reason for the "disappointing" results for the six months to June 30.

Pre-tax profits saw a fall of 4.8 per cent to £409,000, despite a rise in turnover from £6.1m to £7.6m.

Meanwhile the high level of carbon waste is receiving urgent management attention.

Half-way through 1977, Tricentral has already matched its total profits for the whole of 1976 with an outturn of £2.46m before tax.

The board is taking a cautious line on the second half mainly because of the present marketing restrictions on United States gas sales. But even though it is warning shareholders that second-half results are unlikely to exceed greatly the profits of the same period last year, that should still take the full year to around £4m pre-tax bringing the prospective p/e ratio down to a more manageable 13 at 192p, down 4p yesterday.

The drive behind the much better look to the profit and loss account after its lacklustre look in previous years continues to come from the North American gas and oil sales and the commercial division both in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

Profits in the United States have benefited hugely from both the granting of "small producer" status to Tricentral and the rise in gas prices and are double those of last year at £1.51m. Although sales have slipped back 5 per cent in the period, with consumer groups appealing against the price increases, Tricentral is carrying a contingent liability of £261,000.

Meanwhile, the commercial division is forging ahead with cars the star turn where profits have risen from £196,000 to £512,000 on the back of a strong showing from the Ford division.



Mr Joseph Godber, chairman of Tricentral.

Production upsets at T. Marshall

The making of carbon products has produced more waste than was expected so production fell at Thomas Marshall (Lloyds). This is the main reason for the "disappointing" results for the six months to June 30.

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Anderson drops Gerber bid: Unilever silent

The Gerber Products company has had "no negotiations" with Unilever on a possible takeover of Gerber by the Anglo-Dutch company, according to Mr John Suerd, Gerber's chairman, write Frank Vogt from Washington.

Unilever made an approach to Gerber in late April, but this was referred by Gerber to its merchant bank, Goldman, Sachs and Company, and there have been no direct contacts between Gerber and Unilever since then. However, developments now announced by Gerber may well pave the way for a renewed attempt by Unilever, should Unilever still be interested in acquiring this important American company.

Gerber had total sales last year of about \$400m and in recent years it has branched out into life insurance, day-care centres, nursery items and child clothing.

According to a report in the New York Times, Unilever was viewed as a possible interested in a takeover.

over, Gerber notes that "its continued independence serves the best interests of its stockholders, employees and communities in which it operates".

Gerber is the world's largest producer of baby foods and the management's decision to refuse the offer by Anderson Clayton brought suits from shareholders that may serve as a warning to Gerber's directors of significant difficulties ahead if Unilever now makes a good offer.

Anderson Clayton first offered \$40 a share, but then reduced its bid to \$37 when Gerber reported a drop in first quarter per-share net earnings from 80 cents to 54 cents in the first quarter of 1976. The Gerber shares now stand at around \$34.50.

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Back in May, Mr W. T. Hale, chairman, said that over 50 per cent of group production would be exported in the current year and its plans for development were largely based on further penetration of export markets. However the present stability of the pound and continuing domestic inflation will make it difficult to maintain the level of exports.

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However, in September, Derrington made an offer of seven ordinary shares for every four ordinary shares of BEC. The meetings for September 8 were adjourned so that further consideration could be given to the Derrington offer.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fla	£m	£m	per share	ps	date	total
Colson Bros (Fres)	12.3(7.1)	0.93(0.001b)	1.57(0.49b)	0.34(Nil)	17/11	1,231(Nil)
Colson Bros (Fres)	12.3(7.1)	0.93(0.001b)	1.57(0.49b)	0.34(Nil)	17/11	1,231(Nil)
Expend Metal (I)	12.5(10.3)	1.21(1.5)	2.5(2.7)	1.04(0.82)	11/11	1,231(Nil)
Garion Eng (I)	5.9(4.2)	0.50(0.34)	1.21(1.5)	1.04(0.82)	11/11	1,231(Nil)
Study Gibbons (I)	5.9(4.2)	0.50(0.34)	1.21(1.5)	1.04(0.82)	11/11	1,231(Nil)
Limball-Stevens (I)	3.9(2.4)	0.79(0.35)	6.07(5.2)	1.51(1.3)	8/11	1,231(Nil)
W. J. Reynolds (I)	7.6(6.1)	0.40(0.43)	1.16(1.4)	1.56(1.48)	3/11	1,231(Nil)
T. Marshall (Lax)	10.1(6.5)	0.17(0.06)	2.05(0.59)	0.25(-)	31/10	1,231(Nil)
W. J. Reynolds (I)	7.6(6.1)	0.40(0.43)	1.16(1.4)	1.56(1.48)	3/11	1,231(Nil)
Tricentral (I)	5.4(3.8)	5.4(3.8)	2.7(2.4)	1.1(1.0)	30/12	1,231(Nil)
Unid Biscuits	323.0(263.0)	17.0(15.0)	8.3(7.8)	1.75(1.55)	25/11	1,231(Nil)
Wilmington Eng (I)	0.55(0.47)	0.08(0.08)	0.08(0.08)	1.65(1.62)	25/11	1,231(Nil)

Dividends are shown as a percentage of the share price. Dividend yields are shown as a percentage of the share price. Dividend yields are shown as a percentage of the share price.

Expanded Metal in 21pc setback

The extent to which margins under pressure is indicated by results for the six months to June 30. Turnover went up from £10.3m to £12.3m, but pre-tax profits dropped 21 per cent to £1.24m. The shares shed 56p on the news.

Sir Patrick Hamilton, chairman, explains that the basic business has continued to progress but it could not absorb the major drop in the price of the steel stockholding subsidiary.

This fall more than accounts for the setback in group profits. A subsidiary did well last year but this time is experiencing very difficult trading conditions, in line with virtually whole steel industry.

Back in May, when the group was making its £32m rights issue, Sir Patrick said that turnover, including exports, as well as, despite recession in the building industry. He hinted out, however, that margins, particularly in steel stockholding, had been under pressure at the end of 1976 and that this was continuing.

He said that it would be late 1977 and into 1978 before substantial developments which are being undertaken at considerable cost, began to make a positive contribution to profits.

umpier year is seen

Home Charm

Results of Home Charm, the do-it-yourself stores group, the whole of 1977 should show a healthy increase over 1976, when the pre-tax profit was a record £1.01m, the chairman, Mr H. E. (Manny) Angel, says. Trading remains at a satisfactory level and every effort continues to be made to strict costs.

Last week the group reported a pre-tax profit of 18 per cent up on £511,000 in the first half to July 2. Over the half year three stores were opened and the relocated, increasing the group's area of the group to 2,000 square feet, the chairman adds.

Since July 3, a further two stores have been opened. With an opening of another large store planned for next month, a retail selling area of the

group will shortly be 578,000 square feet.

The two remaining overseas stores in America have now been closed.

David Dixon is now doing much better

The profits of Leeds-based David Dixon and Son Holdings so far this year show a "marked improvement" and the board expects it to continue. So writes Mr R. A. Palfreyman, chairman, in his annual report. Dixon manufactures woollen cloth and hosiery, underwear and other products.

With the annual report are the formal details of the settlement of a debt of £710,000 due to Dixon from the Bank Bridge Group and Muring Securities. Bank Bridge has already paid £125,000 to Dixon under the terms. The chairman tells shareholders that liquidity has been helped considerably by the receipt of the £125,000.

ICFA conference on private companies

"The future of the private company in Britain" is the tantalizing theme of a one day conference to be held on Tuesday, October 25 at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on London's South Bank. The conference is being handled by the ICFC and cost is £40.60 per person. The persons aimed at are chairmen, managing directors and their professional advisers. Lord Seeborn, chairman of ICFC will be introducing among others Mr John Methven, the CBI's Director General, Mr Gordon Richardson, the Governor of the Bank of England, and Professor Jim Ball, principal of the London Business School.

Bid offer forces Houchin suspension

The Stock Exchange has temporarily suspended the shares of Houchin, the maker of ground equipment for electrical servicing and starting of aircraft. This follows a board announcement of an approach about an offer for the ordinary capital. The shares were suspended at 132p, where the group is valued at £2.9m. The identity of the bidder was not disclosed.

Southwark's issue underwritten

In spite of yesterday's sharp fall in stock market prices, underwritten was successfully completed for an issue by the Borough of Southwark of £20m nominal 11 1/2 per cent redeemable stock, 1984-5. The new stock is partly-paid with

calls falling due as follows: on application £10 per cent; on October 31, £40 per cent; on December 9, £49 1/2 per cent.

At the 1991 per cent issue price, the gross redemption yield is 11.34 per cent and the net yield 11.31 per cent. This leaves the stock looking dear against the market price, the success of the issue will depend largely on the way market prices move today and tomorrow. Application lists close on Thursday morning.

Polysar not going higher for Mono

The offer from Polysar Belgium for Mono Containers will not be increased, but will be extended until 1978, it leaves Autobair Vending Industries with the highest offer with its bid of £1.45m made in August. Polysar, which is ultimately run by a Canadian Government-controlled company, has received acceptances totalling 22.16 per cent of the ordinary shares and 41 per cent of the preference.

Maltese Cross Ins

Department of Trade has given permission for Maltese Cross Insurance (subsidiary of Lombard Insurance) to conduct liability, motor vehicle, pecuniary loss, personal accident and property insurance business in United Kingdom. Company is already authorized to transact marine, aviation and transport business.

CCH Investments

Mr Gordon A. S. Currie, chairman, has bought 467,000 ordinary shares which, added to ordinary and option shares already held, makes total of 500,000 shares (8.5 per cent).



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